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LOK SABHA

*Friday, May 3, 1985/Vaisakha 13,
1907 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of
the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

**Representation from All India Air-
Conditioning and Refrigeration
Association**

*689. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU+ :
SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be
pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received
any representations from the All India Air-
conditioning and Refrigeration Association
regarding the exemption limits of excise
duty;

(b) if so, the details of their demands;

(c) whether Government are considering
their demands; and

(d) if not the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d).
The Association has suggested :

(1) to enhance excise duty exemption
limit in respect of units in the
small scale sector in the Air-
conditioning industry to Rs. 7.5
lakhs; and

(2) thereafter to make graded conces-
sional rates of duty available upto
Rs. 40 lakhs with an eligibility
limit of Rs. 75 lakhs in a year.
The suggestions are under exami-
nation.

SHRI K. KUNJAMBU : I thank the
hon. Minister for his statement that the
suggestions of the Association are under
examination. In this context I would like to
know by what time the Government will be
able to take a final decision on this matter.
Many small units are closing down due to
the fact that heavy excise duty is being levied
on them. Therefore, can the hon. Minister
indicate the time by which it will be
decided ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : I do
not agree with the statement that the hon.
Member has made that most of the small
scale units are closing down. So far as
taking a decision on the matter is concerned,
finance will be involved; it is under consider-
ation; whether the Government is going to
agree or not going to agree, the decision will
be taken at that time.

SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : The
refrigeration industry has the heaviest excise
burden, and this has affected the growth of
this industry. The Jha Committee on Indirect
Taxes had suggested a flat 40 per cent excise
duty on air-conditioners and refrigerators
and a marginal duty on industrial air control
equipment. I want to know whether the
Government has examined this suggestion
and if so, what is the decision of the
Government.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : If
you permit me, Sir, I will explain the
position. So far as air-conditioner is concer-
ned, the limit is upto Rs. 2½ lakhs; if the
turnover or production is upto Rs. 2½
lakhs, no duty is to be paid. The complaint
of the other small scale units producing other
products, for example, the confectionaries,
have been saying that we are giving more
exemption to air-conditioner indus-
try whereas the small industries
have been suffering. That was the
complaint. Now let us examine. In the case
of air conditioners, if the production or turn-
over of production exceeds Rs. 2.5 lakhs
there is no duty upto that. If they exceed

that only they have to pay the duty. But if the largest industries, the organised sector produce air-conditioners, they have to pay 115.5% duty. If the cost of the air conditioner is Rs. 100 in the organised sector, they will sell it at a price of not less than Rs. 215.50 whereas the small scale sector which produces the air conditioner can sell it at Rs. 215.50 and as their cost of production is Rs. 100, they can get relief or benefit of Rs. 115.50, whereas in the case of other small scale units, for example, units producing confectionery, if the value of production is taken at Rs. 100, their duty is only 10%. If it is produced in organised sector, they sell it at Rs. 110. Here the small scale industry can have profit or relief of Rs. 10 whereas these people producing air conditioners get Rs. 115.50. If the limit is upto Rs. 2.50 lakhs in the case of air conditioners, they are getting exemption or we can say, relief to the tune of Rs. 8.66 lakhs whereas the units which are producing confectionery are getting only Rs. 75,000. Nobody can say that these people are aggrieved. Anyway these proposals are being examined and it is under consideration.

Complaints Against Agents Appointed by National Textile Corporation

*690. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of agents appointed by the National Textile Corporation (U.P.) Ltd., Kanpur during the last year and the current year for procurement of various materials;

(b) whether complaints have been made against a few of them; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof and nature of such complaints and action proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI. P. A. SANGMA) : (a) No agents were appointed by NTC (UP) Ltd. during the year 1984 and 1985 so far, for procurement of various materials viz. raw materials, dyes, chemicals, stores and spares, machinery and capital equipment. However, one handling agent for coal has been appointed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

DR. V. VENKATESH : The common man's money is mismanaged by the National Textile Corporation (UP) Ltd. It is one of the subsidiaries of the NTC which is wholly mismanaged. Various complaints have been made and sent to the Government on earlier occasions even under covering letters from Members of Parliament to the then Union Minister of Commerce; but these must have gone, as a favour to a few corrupt officials, down to the waste paper basket. Newspapers and local dailies in Kanpur have brought out several reports and yet the Government comes out surprisingly that there is no complaint whatsoever.

I know that the CMD might be a judicious officer and he is surrounded by a long list of corrupt and bad officials including the Secretary of the Company who is reported to have earned a few lakhs of rupees.

I want to know whether one M/s. Chem Spin and M/s. Combi Tech (India) both of Delhi have been working for various supplies to NTC (UP) Ltd. and if so how much commission has been paid to these firms and what are the goods that these firms have supplied and at what rates and also whether these firms are being complained of by various people ?

MR. SPEAKER : I think you should have spent a lot of time last night in preparing the questions.

DR. V. VENKATESH : Because common man's money is mismanaged by the NTC. The answer is not given properly, Sir.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : I have said that except for one coal handling agent which NTC appointed on 1st January this year, there is no agent working in the National Textile Corporation. The question of receiving any complaints does not arise. So far as that particular agent which we appointed on 1st of January is concerned, we have not received any complaint so far.

Dr. V. VENKATESH : Sir, earlier I informed this august House about money going into the river Hooghly and I am now constrained to say here that the same public money is being thrown into the Ganga. I do not know whether Government has been able to remove the CMD of NTC Ltd. Calcutta.

He continues as CMD there and this is severely costing the exchequer. May I know whether large amounts of money were earned by a few officials in sales of canvas meant for defence, which were sold to some selected buyers at a very very low price? Were any complaints received by the Government over these transactions? If so, what are those complaints?

MR. SPEAKER : Well, for the information of the House, I do not like reading questions in the House. It is a bad practice and I do not like anybody to follow it. Even I do not like speeches to be read. There might be notes; that is something else. Even in International Forums I like people who come and speak right on top. This is not the way to put supplementary. I disapprove of it.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : I am sorry, I am not able to understand the question and how it relates NTC with the Ganga water and all that....

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : The question has come to you after having been purified with the water of the Ganga.

[English]

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : As far as CMD Calcutta is concerned.....

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Venkatesh, leave that reading; please put the question and you just explain it yourself.

DR. V. VENKATESH : The money is mismanaged in the sale of canvas meant for defence and it is exclusively sold for selected buyers. May I know whether any complaints were received by Government over these transactions?

MR. SPEAKER : Over-ruled. Next question.

Amount due from Tamil Nadu Government to Neyveli Lignite Corporation -

*691. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to collect the sum of Rs. ninety two crore due from the Tamil Nadu Government to the Neyveli Lignite Corporation;

(b) since how long this amount is overdue;

(c) whether the Neyveli Lignite Corporation is continuing to supply power to Tamil Nadu State Electricity Board in spite of such a large outstanding amount; and

(d) if so, how the Neyveli Lignite Corporation proposes to collect the mounting arrears from the Tamil Nadu State Electricity Board?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) As on 24-4-1985, a sum of Rs. 90.06 crores (including Rs. 30.43 crores towards interest) was due from the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board to Neyveli Lignite Corporation. All possible efforts are being made to recover this amount. These include meetings at various levels between senior officers of NLC, TNEB, Government of Tamil Nadu and the Department of Coal. The matter had also been taken up with the Chief Minister, Tamil Nadu.

(b) The amount of Rs. 90.06 crores outstanding as on 24-4-1985 represents the value of the bills from October 1984 onwards and includes an amount of Rs. 30.43 crores being the claim towards interest for the belated payment from 1-4-1982 to 31-3-1985 and an amount of Rs. 0.66 crores for additional rate for extra power supplied in 1983-84.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) All possible measures are being taken to expedite the clearance of the arrears by TNEB. The Board has been making some payments periodically and it is hoped that it would be possible to bring down the arrears in the near future. A new Agreement is being negotiated which would contain clauses to ensure prompt settlement of bills.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : This question was concerning the dues of the Tamil Nadu Government's State Electricity Board to the Neyveli Lignite Corporation from 1982. The State Government of Tamil Nadu is doing some commendable job in providing rural electrification and small farmers are enjoying free electricity and also now they have

rationalised the tariff rates for the other farmers. These things are happening at whose costs? In Tamil Nadu there is a proverb : The ghee belongs to the host and the distributing hand is that of his wife. The outstanding dues of nearly Rs. 90 crores are there; this is due from T.N. Electricity Board to NLC from 1982 onwards. In his reply he has stated that TN Electricity Board is paying periodically and that is done along with current dues. May I know how much amount the T.N. Electricity Board was paying towards the arrears as well as the current dues to NLC ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Although the Tamil Nadu Government has agreed to give the arrears in instalments along with current payments unfortunately it has not been able to do so. That is why the arrears have been mounting. Now this has come to Rs. 90 crores. I have personally intervened in this. My predecessor also made some efforts. Recently, I met the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and he has agreed to do something about it. The Tamil Nadu Government is keen to do something in this respect, because ultimately it is in their own interest that they want to do something about it. The Neyveli Lignite Corporation is in Tamil Nadu and if it is a successful Corporation and produces more electricity, we can do expansion and all that. Therefore, they are also keen and we are keen to find out a solution for this. We shall see how we can do this. But up till now nothing has been paid towards the arrears.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Sir, this is my second supplementary. We the Members of Parliament from Tamil Nadu are always pleading for more investments in public sector undertakings in Tamil Nadu. The behaviour of non-payment of arrears by the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board is not going to help our request for more and more investment in public sector undertakings in Tamil Nadu. About Rs. 100 crores are accumulated loss due to line loss, and pilferage in Tamil Nadu. Unless they plug the line loss and pilferage, where is the question of repayment ? The Tamil Nadu Government has also got the approval of the Central Government for import of one lakh tonnes of coal from Australia and now they have asked the Central Government for another 4 lakh tonnes of coal import from Australia. Where from the foreign exchange will come

for this import ? Sir, out of the outstanding of Rs. 90 nearly 1/3 is the interest charge for the belated payment. This 1/3 interest charge should be scrapped and the balance amount of Rs. 60 crores should realised from the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, the whole working of production of power in Tamil Nadu today is that they are importing it from Kerala. Even their own production in Tuticorin is costlier than Neyveli Lignite Corporation. Neyveli Lignite Corporation production is the cheapest as far as Tamil Nadu is concerned in Southern region. Therefore, we are planning for expansion. Today, we are producing 600 megawatt. We have already under construction 630 megawatt, that is, 3×210 megawatt and the first 210 megawatt will be commissioned by March 1986. Then, Sir, in the Seventh Plan, we are planning to set up another 840 megawatt, that is 4×210 megawatt. It is not only going to feed Tamil Nadu, but the entire Southern Region can be fed with power. This is the plan. As far as this amount of Rs. 90 crores is concerned, the suggestion made by the hon. Member, if it is mutually discussed, ultimately in the interest of the country, whatever possible is feasible, we can do.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that not only there, but in every State, crores of rupees remain outstanding against big mill-owners and in spite of that they continue to get power supply, while if a farmer in a village owes only a thousands of rupees, he is denied of power supply for irrigation. I would like to know whether the liberal attitude being adopted towards big people will be extended to small farmers also and instructions to this effect issued to every State.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am responsible for coal production and if he needs it, he can tell me... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : He means that it should be supplied free of cost to them also as is being done in the case of millowners. (Interruptions).

SHRI VASANT SATHE : The required quantity of coal... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : Free of cost...
(Interruptions).

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Let Parliament decide it, I do not mind. Coal is yours. If you want to supply it free, you may do so...
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Parliament never asked you to supply power worth Rs. 90 crores on credit.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : As for coal, bad association brings bad name. As far as power is concerned, only the Minister concerned can reply to that...(Interruptions).

[English]

Supply of Power to Rourkela Steel Plant

*693. **SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY :** Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Orissa State Electricity Board had substantially reduced the supply of power to Rourkela Steel Plant in February and March, 1985 and diverted the power supply coming from Andhra for other purposes;

(b) if so, whether Government have any information as to why the supply of power was reduced around half of the need;

(c) whether Orissa State Electricity Board has charged Rourkela Plant the cost of power diverted including high tariff paid to Andhra; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (d). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Supplies of power to Rourkela Steel Plant from Orissa State Electricity Board's own generation came down in February and March. However, there was no substantial drop in the total supply of power to Rourkela due to supplies received from Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board.

(b) Supplies of power from Orissa State Electricity Board came down in February and March on account of a sharp drop in the power generation of the Board.

(c) Orissa State Electricity Board does not appear to have diverted any power made available to the Rourkela Steel Plant by Andhra State Electricity Board. However, Rourkela Steel Plant has to pay more for Andhra power since, against OSEB's tariff at the rate of 56 paise per Unit, APSEB's power supply costs the plant 95 paise per Unit.

(d) The Central Electricity Authority is examining the issue of high percentage of wheeling loss being charged by OSEB on power supplied by APSEB for RSP with a view to fix a reasonable figure for wheeling loss on this account.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : May I know from the hon. Minister what is the supply cost of the power received from the Madhya Pradesh grid ? I would also like to know whether the Government is contemplating to have a 120 megawatt captive plant. What is the anticipated cost of that and when it is going to be completed ? When was it mooted ?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : I do not have the price for Madhya Pradesh and I will give it to the member later on. But I can give the price for the OSEB and Andhra Pradesh power. For Andhra Pradesh the cost is 95 paise and the OSEB power is 56 paise per unit. In regard to the Captive Plant, the first unit will be ready by 1st June 1986.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : What is the anticipated supply cost for that ?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : May I have notice for it please ?

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : May I know from the hon. Minister whether the High Level Committee set up by the Government to review the working of the public sector enterprises and the subsequent changes in their organisational policy has submitted its report ? May I also know whether they have made any recommendations relating to the infrastructural adequacy including power, so far as the Rourkela Plant is concerned ?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : I am not sure whether this is entirely related to the question he has asked. If the report is available, I shall certainly inform the House if another question is put on it. What I can tell about this particular matter in regard to

power supply is that the concerned Ministries of the Government of India are constantly in touch with each other.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : My question is about the High Level Committee that you have set up to review the working of the public sector enterprises regarding their organisational policy and I wanted to know whether they have made any recommendations so far as Rourkela Plant is concerned, about its infrastructural adequacy including power.

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : I require notice for this question is concerned only with the supply of power to the Rourkela Steel Plant, whereas this High Level Committee is dealing with a number of subjects and not specifically the Rourkela Plant.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : The High Level Committee which has been set up is for all the public sector units under our Ministry. The Report is yet to come. As far as power is concerned, it is true that shortage of power is one of the major constraints of all public sector units, particularly steel. Earlier, it was the same story for fertilizers also. Therefore, the Government have taken a policy decision to have captive thermal power plants in all these major industries. That will help to solve the problem to some extent.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Sir, the Rourkela Steel Plant often complains of want of power, *i.e.* non-supply of power to the required extent from the Government of Orissa or the OSEB. Since the allocation of power to the extent of 15 per cent of the power generated by super-thermal power station lies with the CEA, *i.e.* the Central Electricity Authority, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Ministry of Steel would like to take up this matter with the CEA to get some power directly from super-thermal plant for smooth running of the Steel Plant. The hon. Minister of Steel while replying to the debate on the Demands has said that they would have dedicated power plants instead of the captive power plants of 120 megawatts. I would like to know whether they will try to instal the dedicated power plants to the required extent in different Steel Plants, including Rourkela.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I have said that that was one of the ideas. After all what happens today is that even from CEA, even from the super-thermal power stations under the Central Governments's control, the power goes into the grid of the State and the distribution is controlled by the State Electricity Boards and that is where their priority is changed sometimes. At the time of setting up of the Plant, they always assure regular and full supply of power, saying : "Please set up, we will certainly supply." But later on when they find that they need power to be diverted to agriculture or other priority sectors, then the first sector to be affected is these Central projects like steel plants, or whatever is it. But what is the solution ? That is why we have been saying that either the Central Government should have assured power supply from the super-thermal power stations or dedicated plants of 210 or whatever megawatts as economically possible for a complex of the public sector units be set up. That is applicable to every State, particularly in the Eastern Belt.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has said that a decision has been taken to set up captive power plants in major industries in the public sector. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware that industries in the private sector are receiving electricity supply from different Electricity Boards as a result of which we the farmers are not receiving power. Will he direct the private sector industries to set up their own captive power plants so as to meet the shortage of power in the agricultural sector ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : How can I give such direction to the private sector ? I do not know. But certain companies in a particular sector have set up their captive power plants.

[English]

Losses suffered by the National Jute Manufacturers' Corporation

*694. **SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Jute Manufacturers' Corporation and its individual units

are running in losses during the last five years;

(b) if so, whether installed looms are remaining idle and there is a shortage of trained badli workers;

(c) how much has been spent on overhauling and renovation of mill machinery;

(d) whether numerous cases of wastage, pilferage, thefts and other malpractices have been caught by the workmen without any action being taken; and

(e) whether the Auditor's Report has noted that there has been excessive recruitment of officers to the extent of 20 per cent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Capacity utilisation in NJMC has gone up to 78% by the end of 1984 as against 63% at the time of nationalisation. There is no instance of looms in NJMC being kept idle due to shortage of trained badli workers.

(c) The total amount spent on overhauling and renovation of mill machinery so far is about Rs. 4.37 crores out of Rs. 19.34 crores spent on Scheme of modernisation and renovation of five Units of NJMC.

(d) Every case of wastage, pilferage, thefts and other malpractices caught by workmen as well as by management has been suitably dealt with and appropriate action taken in the matter.

(e) No, Sir. There is no mention in any of the Auditor's Reports about excessive recruitment of officers in NJMC.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : In the answer given to part (a) of the question, the Minister has admitted that this National Jute Manufacturers' Corporation is running in losses during the last five years. But he has not given any reason as to why these losses are continuing. These five mills which are under NJMC in West Bengal are, of course, a part of the entire jute industry which at present is claiming—the jute industry

as a whole, *i.e.* the employers are claiming—that the main reason for their losses is the acute shortage of fibre, *i.e.* raw jute, and the very high prices of raw jute. I would like to know from him whether it is not a fact that in these NJMC mills in West Bengal, we find that there is actually no shortage of fibre. They have adequate fibre with them. They have never complained of shortage of fibre. They have been getting more or less an assured supply from the Jute Corporation of India; and, therefore, this main cause for losses, according to the Indian Jute Mills Association, does not operate in the case of the NJMC mills. Also, I presume that once the mills are nationalized, the other attributes, I should say the traditional attributes, of bad management in the jute mills, *viz.* things like speculative activities, black-marketing of fibre and so on, do not take place. They should not take place in the nationalized sector. So, may I know what is the extent of these losses which he has admitted, and what are they primarily due to, in the case of NJMC mills, unlike the privately-owned mills ?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : The extent of losses incurred by these NJMC mills are like this : in 1981-82 the nett loss was Rs. 19.81 crores and the cash loss was Rs. 15.89 crores; in 1982-83 the nett loss was Rs. 22.67 crores and cash loss Rs. 13.87 crores; in 1983-84 they were Rs. 32.13 crores and Rs. 17.32 crores respectively, and in 1984-85 Rs. 32.09 crores and Rs. 11.88 crores respectively. This is the extent of losses incurred by these mills.

I agree with the hon. Member that the short supply of raw material, *i.e.* raw jute, is not the cause, because as the hon. Member has rightly pointed out, they have been getting regular supplies from the Jute Corporation of India; but I think the price of raw jute has certainly contributed to the losses.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : During the last five years ?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : I have given you the figures from 1981 till date. I do not have the other figures at the moment.

Another reason perhaps, not perhaps but another reason is the obsolescence of machinery and all this. Therefore, modernization

is a must, and the Government of India has been trying to modernize these mills.

After the modernisation, I think there has been a slight improvement in spite of the prices of raw jute going up from Rs. 250 in 1980-81 to Rs. 1000; and it has been rising. Therefore, the Government of India had sanctioned about Rs. 28 crores for modernisation; and the process is going on.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Mr. Sangma knows very well that th's phenomenon of abnormally high prices of fibre has only been evident in this last season because he has given losses for the last five years when there was never any complaint of such high prices. I am glad that he has referred again to the need of modernisation of obsolete machinery. In his statement, he says that "the total amount spent on overhauling and renovation of mill machinery so far is about Rs. 4.37 crores out of Rs. 19.34 crores spent on schemes of modernisation and renovation of five units of NJMC." That means out of Rs. 19 crores, they have spent only Rs. 4 crores on modernisation of machinery. What about the remaining Rs. 15 crores being spent in the name of modernisation and renovation? The main thing to modernise is the machinery. There they have spent only Rs. 4.37 crores whereas the balance of Rs. 15 crores on what they have spent. This is a very strange way of modernising a mill. So, I would like to know from him, if he can give them, how many of the pre-nationalisation management personnel who were running this mill before nationalisation and who are therefore responsible for making that mill sick which led to nationalisation are there? It is one of the biggest national jute mills.

MR. SPEAKER : Are they still responsible to keep them sick?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : It is the biggest mill in Asia; it employs 18,000 workers. Is belonged to R. P. Goenka before nationalisation. They rained that mill and it had to be taken over. I want to know from him specifically how many of them—pre-nationalisation management executives—are still in responsible positions running the mill after nationisation and also the question about money spent on modernisation?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : The hon. member specific question was not on modernisation but on overhauling and renovation of the

old mill machinery. So, we have spent Rs. 4 crores for renovating the old machinery. Rs. 15 crores have gone for purchasing new machinery, towards modernisation and also for setting up the captive power generation plants. So, this is the process of modernisation.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : He must tell about the whole amount which has been spent Rs. 19.34 crores. Has it all been spent on machinery either of renovation of old machinery or purchase of new machinery? Has it been spent only on machinery; whether on modernisation or renovation is not the point? Has it been spent on some other head?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : I have the details. New machinery for replacement—Rs. 3.64 crores; new machinery for balancing—Rs. 5.16 crores; DG sets (captive power generation)—Rs. 3.38 crores; for renovation, I have already given the figure. Miscellaneous fixed assets—about Rs. 0.58 crores, civil construction—Rs. 0.65 crores; all this makes Rs. 19.39 crores.

Regarding personnel, I am sorry, I would not be able to give the exact number of personnel who are there from the previous management. The total number of persons who have gone on retirement and superannuation—920 superannuated hands were paid during the period 1-9-84 to February 1985—the total number is 1107.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I am not asking about the workers; the workers do not manage the mill.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : I do not have that figure—how many are still remaining and how many of them have gone on retirement. If you want the number which we have got I can give you. But if you want the number continued from the previous management, I will find out and give you.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I only say that the Government should show a little more concern to the fate of the NJMC. This is the first time that such an experiment is being made in running a nationalised jute mill. They had made a mess of it. But it is no better than the private owners. The whole thing will collapse.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : I do not think

we are trying to make a mess of it. We are trying to run the mills.

MR. SPEAKER : Get it out of the mess !

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : We will get it out of the mess.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : What would be the loss to get it out of the mess ?

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, Kumari Mamata Banerjee.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, the hon. Minister has admitted that the National Jute Mills Corporation is running in a loss for the last five years. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether in West Bengal all these jute industries are going to close down, whether the Government have any proposal to open these jute industries because there a large section of the workers are already suffering, some are on the verge of death, and the situation is very serious there.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : About the overall jute industry, the matter has been discussed throughly in the House and the Minister has given a reply to the debate also.

As far as this particular group of six mills is concerned, I can assure that they will not be closed. They are running well.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : I wanted to ask the Minister a question—I do not want any names or numbers about the management—about the changes they have made, whether they have deliberately recruited any new personnel so that the management can be improved. That was the spirit of Shri Indrajit Gupta's question also.

MR. SPEAKER : He has said that he has got no figures.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : No. That is not what I wanted.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : As a matter of policy, have they decided to change the management staff ?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : We have been recruiting new people in order to improve the management because we have also added a number of other departments and the

moment we buy new machinery—we had gone in for captive generation—we need new people for management and to that extent we have added quite a number of people and I think from the date of nationalisation till 31st March we have added 193 people to the management staff and 81 have been added to the supervisory side.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Anadi Charan Das.

Availability of Laterite-ore in Mineral Valley of Sukinda

*696. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) The amount of proved, probable and possible categories of nickel bearing laterite-ore available in the mineral valley of Sukinda :

(b) the reasons for which Government have not been able to extract the nickel values from these deposits;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up a ferro-nickel plant in Orissa to utilise these deposits;

(d) if so, the project cost; and

(e) when the project is proposed to be commissioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The proved, probable and possible ore reserves of nickel in the Sukinda area of Orissa is as follows at 0.70% cut-off :

(In million tonnes grade in percentage)

	Provide	Probable	Possible	Total
Reserves	18.70	65.18	70.62	154.50
Grade	1.12	1.00	1.03	1.05

(b) For reasons of techno-economic viability.

(c) to (e). The Central Government have presently no proposal to set up a ferro-nickel plant in Orissa. A Letter of Intent under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 was, however, issued

in February, 1984 to the Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Orissa for setting up of a 10,000 tonnes per annum ferro-nickel plant based on the above deposit. The party had indicated in 1983 that the total investment would be Rs. 21.10 crores, and a period of 30 months for completing the project.

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : I have gone through the statement laid on the Table, in reply to the question. In answer to part (e) it is stated that the Central Government have at present no proposal to set up a ferro-nickel plant in Orissa. But, as you may be aware, in 1974 the Minister of Industries, Shri Shah Nawaz Khan had already laid the foundation stone to have a nickel plant in Orissa. But now the Government have stated that there is no proposal. Why is this deviation taking place now? Does the Government propose to establish a nickel plant there?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I have already said that as far as the Central Government is concerned, it did not find it possible, but the Orissa Government—its Corporation IPICOL—had asked for a letter of intent for a 10,000 tonne plant and we had approved it. Later on they have now said that they would want this letter of intent to be transferred of another Corporation of the Orissa Government called IDICOL and they want also that it should be shifted from Keonjhar district to Cuttack district, that is at Jaipur Road. We have given our approval to both these proposals. They now find it feasible at a different place and at a different site. So, if they think it is possible, we have no objection. They can go ahead. After all you want a nickel plant and you are getting it.

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Of course, I agree that the government has agreed for the plant. There is one confusion. In 1974 the estimated cost of the plant was Rs. 39.60 crores and recently it is being given as Rs. 21 crores. So, I would like to know whether it will cost Rs. 39 crores or Rs. 21 crores.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I think there is some confusion. This Rs. 39 crores which was earlier there went up to Rs. 48 crores. It was for Nickel extraction plant at Sukinda. That was found to be not economically feasible. Therefore, it was given up. Now,

here you are talking of this plant for the production of nickel. This, as I said, is being done by the Orissa Government.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : I would like to know whether his Ministry had approached the Canadian Government for assistance in providing appropriate technology for setting up the Nickel Plant in Sukinda? If so, the details of the response made by the Canadian Government. Why I want to know is as the plant gets delayed, the escalation cost of it also goes up.

Secondly when we have got nickel bearing laterite-ore available in Orissa, why don't you exploit it? What is the reaction of the Government for setting up the project to exploit it. In this connection I want to know the response of the Canadian Government and what type of technology it proposes to give.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : There is a chequered history to this. We have tried to have consultations with every source. We had asked for international tenders. We also consulted the Canadian experts. After going through all this exercise we come to the conclusion that the nickel extraction will be nearly three times costlier than what the imported nickel will cost. Therefore, it is not considered an economically viable proposition. As such it was dropped.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : In 1974 Mr. Shah Nawaz laid the foundation stone for the Nickel extraction in Sukinda and also for a smelter at Sarjupan. At that time Sarit Garden Process of Canada and International French Nickel had been invited. Basing on that a pilot project was sanctioned in Jamshedpur. At that time Rs. 39.50 crores was envisaged as the cost of the project.

Sir, the statement given by the hon. Minister in answer to the question is very much confusing. Here he has stated what is proved, what is probable, what is possible and what is total. It is never stated in the science of geology what is probable, what is possible and what is total. Here he has given 154.50 million tonnes as total. It is only envisaged as what is probable reserve and what is mineable reserve? It is never total. Probable reserve indicated here is 65.18 and possible is 70.62. It is all confusing.

MR. SPEAKER : He has already replied, What is the point in giving this thing ?

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : It has been wrongly replied. Will the Minister make the record straight ?

MR. SPEAKER : You come under Rule 115.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : I only wanted to know whether the Minister will make the record straight and say what is possible and what is mineable reserve and what is the cost of the nickel at CIL and what is the cost at which we can produce.

MR. SPEAKER : He need not reply. He has already said it is thrice the price of imported nickel.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : You must protect me.

MR. SPEAKER : I am protecting the interest of the House as well.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : I mean he has given this wrongly. He should correct it. That is my point.

MR. SPEAKER : I do not know whether you are wrong or he is wrong. This thing has to be decided.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : What is the price of nickel...

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE : This is the usual trouble with our hon. friend who is a Doctor or a Doctorate holder.

MR. SPEAKER : Then you are accustomed to this.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sometimes, therefore, knowledge becomes confusion when it is not fully matched.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I hope he does not diagnose his patient's illness like this.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I never claimed to be an expert. I go by the information given to me. I am told that there is some such thing as a cut-off point of the value of nickel and it is measured at those levels and therefore, at 0.7 per cent it is taken as the cut-off point. Then they say, 'here is a total likelihood—that is what is estimated', from that what is the probable thing, and then what is proved ultimately is

the result that can be commercially exploited. So, I have given these figures. What is proved today is 18.17 and that is of Grade 1.12, and therefore, as I have said, when we went through—I do not want to waste the time of the House—all agencies, national and international have been consulted and ultimately....

MR. SPEAKER : Why don't you consult Dr. Bhoi ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I can tell my hon. friend that if he wants, I can give all the information to him.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : One point that emerges is....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Could a mistake not have been committed at that time.

[English]

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : One point that emerges is, when the foundation was laid, whether all these things were looked into.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : There are many things that take place before laying of foundation.

[English]

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : When the Government of India laid the foundation whether all these things were looked into.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE : We cannot be held responsible always for foundation.

(Interruptions)

Illegal Mining of Coal

*697. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether millions of tonnes of high grade coal are trapped in the pillars of some collieries from which the most easily minable coal had been extracted by private owners;

(b) if so, the reasons why it had been allowed and who was responsible for that;

(c) whether the extraction as above has resulted in underground fires in Jharia Coal fields; and

(d) the steps Government have taken to control the above situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The bord and pillar method of mining has traditionally been followed in the under-ground mining of coal in India. However, prior to nationalisation of coal mines, there was a tendency on the part of erstwhile mine owners to do selective mining. As a result, sizable reserves of coal used to be left in pillars. In many cases, due to such unscientific extraction of pillars, a number of fires started on account of spontaneous heating of coal pillars left in the worked-out areas.

(d) After nationalisation, several steps have taken to control existing fires and to ensure that further fires do not occur. Seventeen projects with a total investment of Rs. 104.32 crores for dealing with these fires have already been prepared. Out of these, 15 projects with a total investment of Rs. 70.79 crores have already been sanctioned which are in various stages of implementation.

In addition, as a part of an overall Master Plan for Reconstruction of Jharia Coalfield, such mining methods are being introduced in the underground mines which will enable maximum extraction of coal reserves so as to minimise chances of fire in the mined out areas.

[Translation]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you had directed that hon. Member should neither read out any written speech nor any written question, but today all the answers to the questions have been given in the form of Statement. In all the cases it has been stated—

[English]

'A Statement is laid on the Table of the House'.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Had these all been read out, what would have been your position ?

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Why should they give written answer to a small question ? A good Government or a good Ministry is that which is capable of shifting its responsible for mistakes on others efficiently! That is why such answers are given. They say that before nationalisation of coal mines, the mines used to catch fire because the private owners did not work scientifically and systematically. They used to leave coal-pillars in the mines. Was there no law at that time which could have been enforced to prevent the mines from catching fire ?

The second question that arises is this. What effective steps have so far been taken by Government after nationalisation to prevent fire in mines; what are the names of such mines; when were such steps taken and what was the amount spent in respect of each mine ? I would also like to know whether even today fire is raging in the Jharia coal mine which is causing loss to Government, and if so, the reasons therefor ?

AN HON. MEMBER : Fire is raging even today.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : The hon. Member says that even today the fire is raging.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : If they are not on fire, you go and set them on fire.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have given a written reply to the question for the satisfaction of the hon. Member. In spite of that he is not satisfied.

MR. SPEAKER : It has rather become a cause for dissatisfaction.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : That is the difficulty. What is the way out ? But all the points he has raised just now have been answered in my reply to the main question. All the information as to what used to happen earlier and why it was not being done earlier has been made available in that answer. We nationalised the coal mines in 1973 and he now wants its *post-mortem*. Shri Daga wants me to discuss as to what was

the law prevailing at that time and why that was not being done at that time and all that. . . (*Interruptions*) Either he should sit down and listen to me or I sit down.

MR. SPEAKER : It will be better if both of you sit down ! We shall be able to take up some other work.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : The coal mine-owners had been operating mines illegally which resulted in losses to the country and, therefore, the mines were nationalised. After nationalisation, the number of coalmines is about 711. Regarding fire in the Jharia coal-belt, we have tried to control it in whatever way it was possible. We find that such mines number about 45. We have provided funds and they are being spent for extinguishing the fire. At 15 places, the fire has been brought under control and operations are still on. We believe that we shall be able to control the fire in the next 5 to 6 years. It is true that we have suffered some loss on this account.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : The following newsitem has appeared on page 4 of 'The Statesman' dt. 10th April :

[*English*]

"MOUNTAINS OF COAL UP IN SMOKE

Every year coal worth several crores of rupees goes up in smoke due to poor production planning of the public sector coal industry.

CIL Companies on March, 31, had 29.8 million tonnes of pit-head stocks worth Rs. 700 crores. Many of such dumps are on fire."

[*Translation*]

Here, the pit-head stocks are on fire. I have quoted from *The Statesman* dated 10th April. What preventive measures are you taking ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Earlier, the question was asked why fire was raging in the underground mines. I have made it clear in my reply to the question and now also here that when the coal stocks pick-up, the mines catch fire due to internal combustion. Now, that the coal stock at our pit-heads has piled up in huge quantity, some of the coal is burning. This statement I have

made. The solution for this is the movement of coal. This we are trying. . . (*Interruptions*) I do not want to shift responsibility to any other Ministry. We have collective responsibility. I am prepared to send Shri Daga to put out the fire but I am afraid, that is not going to help, it may have an adverse effect. We have held meetings with the power houses, who are our major consumers, with their Ministry and with the officials of the Railway Ministry. All of us have been meeting constantly and sorting out the problems.

[*English*]

The power houses are the major consumers. Even in such sectors we have succeeded in solving their problem of transportation to some extent. This is the best way to solve this problem.

[*Translation*]

SHRI LALITESHWAR SHAHI : I would like to know two things in this connection, first, whether the fire by combustion is raging in the BCL areas or in the open coalmine areas from where coal is sent to power houses. Secondly, so far as BCL is concerned, I would like to know the quantity of coal taken out after nationalisation, from the pillars which were cut at the seams at the time of extracting coal and the extent to which sand has been filled in those pillars.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Figures about the quantity of coal taken out and sand filled in every mine are not available with me but after nationalisation, the policy is that it should be ensured that no mine should catch fire. We make a provision for this.

[*English*]

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : This is not a laughing matter. It is a very serious question. And this is a very poor reflection, I must say, on the Coal India and the Ministry. It should be a news to the people of this country that, for the last ten years or more, our precious coal deposits have been on fire. I want to know from the hon. Minister precisely as to what is the total loss suffered by the country. In view of the fact that there is scarcity of coal all around and very poor quality of coal is being supplied to our power stations, I want to know what safety measures have been taken and why this matter has not been tackled on an emergency basis when thousands of tonnes of coal are

being burnt. Within a radius of about 100 kilometres in Jharia coal belt, fire has been raging for the last ten years. I am shocked to know the way the Ministry has handled, the Coal India has handled, this crisis. This House would like to know in precise terms what steps were taken and what steps the Minister is going to take in future to bring to an end this crisis—I call it a crisis. This should be tackled on an emergency basis.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : He has already replied to it.

[English]

SHRI VASANT SATHE : We have never taken this question in a lighter vein. I strongly refute the allegation of the hon. Member that it is being treated lightly or that Government has not taken adequate steps. After nationalisation, we took steps; only we provided money but we have brought it under control. I have given the details. I can pass it on. I need not take the time of the House. . .

MR. SPEAKER : It is alright.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Cutting of trenches by heavy earthmoving equipment to isolate fires; filling of developed galleries below the ground; hydraulic sand stowing/ hydro-pneumatic stowing; fly ash flushing, inert gas injection. . .

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : What is the result ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : The result is that it has been brought down.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : Fire is still raging.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : It has been going on for 50 years. Even the best scientists know this. If there is inert gas, by internal thing, it catches up. Coal is an inflammable thing. These are gassy mines. It is not that, by just wishing, the fires can be extinguished. This is the job of scientists. No one should take it lightly, and making light remarks, in a cavalier manner, will not extinguish the fire.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : I strongly protest against the way the Minister is twisting it. You may refute. But this is a reflection on the functions of the Ministry. . . (Interruptions) I want to know why steps were not taken to extinguish the fire. . .

MR. SPEAKER : Let us not have a fire in the House now.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : What is the result ? We are interested in knowing the result and not in your mere detailing of what you have done.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : They are coming down. This is the result. I have said so.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : How much control have you been able to achieve ? You should say that.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : 50 per cent has been achieved. I have said so. Sir, he has not cared to read the reply; he just comes to the House, jumps up and says such things.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : Sir, on a point of procedure. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Do not get agitated.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : A written reply is placed on the Table of the House. A serious Minister goes into all the aspects and he replies to all the points raised. Merely placing a statement will not satisfy the House.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : The written replies are made available. He should have read the whole reply before putting his questions.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : That is not the Gita which everybody will go and read. You will have to reply to every detail.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I have no doubt that he has not read even the Gita.

MR. SPEAKER : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Exploitation of Mines and Mineral Resources in Birbhum (West Bengal)

*692. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work and survey has been undertaken for exploration and exploitation of mines and mineral resources in Birbhum in West Bengal and if so, the results thereof;

(b) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government for setting up industries based on coal and other mineral resources available in many areas of Birbhum;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) Yes, Sir. As a result of the surveys for minerals carried out in Birbhum district (West Bengal) a total reserve of about 533 million tonnes of coal, 127.55 million tonnes of China clay and 4.5 million tonnes of fire clay resources have been estimated.

(b) to (d). Detailed investigation for coal in Birbhum district has been taken up jointly by the State Directorate of Mines and Minerals, West Bengal and the Geological Survey of India, and the work is in progress.

West Bengal Projects Limited, a subsidiary of West Bengal Small Industries Corporation is going to have their china clay mine and Washery at Makdum Nagar in Md. Bazar, West Bengal. West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Ltd. has already set up a stone-crushing unit for building stone at Pachmi and Hatgacha, Md. Bazar. Exploitation of hot spring water of Barkeshwar as natural mineral water is under active consideration of the State Government.

However, setting up of industries based on coal would take longer and the techno-economic viability needs to be studied.

Decision Regarding Splitting L.I.C.

*698. PROF. MADHU DANDAVALE : SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a decision in regard to splitting the Life Insurance Corporation; and

(b) if so, the reasons on which the decision is based ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). A Bill to reorganise the Life Insurance Corporation into five independent units, as reported by the Joint Committee of Parliament, was introduced in the 7th Lok Sabha on 25-8-1984. The Bill later lapsed with the dissolution of the Lok Sabha. It has since been decided by the Government not to proceed with the introduction of the Bill pending further examination.

Opening of Income Tax Office in Every District

*699. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Income Tax Department has its offices in every district of the country;

(b) if not, the number of districts where there is no Income Tax Office at present;

(c) whether Government propose to establish Income Tax Offices in every district for the convenience of the administration as well as the assesseees and practitioners; and

(d) the target date fixed by the Income Tax Department for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). According to information readily available, the stations at which Income-tax Offices are located are about 372. There may be Income-tax Offices at more than one place in a particular district whereas none in several others.

(c) and (d). It is not the policy of Government to have Income-tax Offices in every district. Opening of and maintaining

Income-tax Offices depends upon several factors taken together like (i) number of assessments available, (ii) budget collections, (iii) economic viability, (iv) administrative convenience, and (v) convenience of tax-paying public.

Export to U.S.A.

***700. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian exports to United States of America have decreased in the recent past while exports to USA from the developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America have increased considerably;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to increase Indian exports to USA.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir.

The Indian exports to the U.S.A. have increased during the period 1981-84.

According to the Statistics published by the US Commerce Department imports from Asia and Latin America also increased during the years 1980-83 whereas from Africa they declined.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Continuous steps are being taken to promote Indian exports to U.S.A. like exchange of delegations, participation in Fairs/Exhibitions, organising Buyer-Seller Meets, sponsoring of Sales-cum-study Teams and holding negotiations both at Governmental and non-Governmental levels with a view to removing constraints impeding the growth of Indo-US Trade.

Restrictions on Powerlooms

***701. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :** Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have imposed several restrictions on powerlooms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that due to restrictions on powerlooms, the large

textile mills are taking undue advantage over the powerlooms;

(d) whether Government propose to remove the restrictions on the powerlooms; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :

(a) and (b). Acquisition, installation sale or disposal of powerlooms can be undertaken only with prior permission of Textile Commissioner Powerlooms may not undertake production of fabrics exclusively reserved for production in the handloom sector. These restrictions apply equally to the powerlooms in the decentralised and the organised mill sector.

(c) No, Sir. Production figures over the last 4 years indicate that production of cloth by powerlooms has increased whereas production by the mill sector has languished.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) It is essential that adequate protection is provided to the handloom sector and a balanced and disciplined growth takes place in the power operated sector the powerlooms and mill.

[Translation]

Gold Prices

***702. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI :**
SHRI R. M. BHOYE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the prices of gold are increasing day by day;

(b) if so, the annual proportionate increase in the prices of gold during the past three years;

(c) whether Government are taking any concrete steps to control gold prices; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The annual average price of standard gold increased in the Bombay market by 0.2 per cent in 1982-83, 7.9 per cent in 1983-84 and 6.7 per cent in 1984-85.

(c) and (d). Gold is not an essential commodity and the Government does not propose to control its price.

[English]

Quotas Allotted to Garment Exporters

*703. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of SUPPLIES AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have directed the garment exporters to strictly follow quotas allotted to them and warned them that attempts on the contrary could force importing countries to be more restrictive;

(b) whether the exporters have been urged to concentrate on non-quota countries and non-quota products; and

(c) if so, how many exporters have agreed to the suggestions made by the Union Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Entitlements for export of garments to countries with which India has bilateral agreements are allotted to various exporters in accordance with the Export Entitlement Distribution Policy for garments and knitwear announced by the Government from year to year. Under this Policy, exporters can export garments only upto the entitlements allotted to them,

(b) and (c). Government encourages exports of garments to non-quota countries as also of non-quota products. There has been considerable growth in such exports over the years.

Production of Silk

*704. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the types of silk produced in India;

(b) the total area in the country utilised for silk production;

(c) whether any intensive cultivation plan is being carried out in our country to produce more silk; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) The types of silk produced in India are mulberry, tasar, eri and muga.

(b) The total area being utilised for silk production in the country is about 7.72 lakh hectares.

(c) and (d). For increasing production of raw silk in the country, Central Silk Board has been implementing special development projects and also central projects for supplementing the States' efforts in this regard. The major intensive Sericulture development projects are:

(i) A project for intensive sericulture development in Karnataka with World Bank Assistance.

(ii) Inter-State Tasar Project.

(iii) Muga Seed Development Project.

Gold Mines located in Orissa

*705. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether gold mines have been located in some parts of Orissa;

(b) if so, whether their quality and quantity have been examined and assessed;

(c) the steps taken for their exploitation; and

(d) the names of the places and districts where the gold mines have been located and steps for production of the areas to check in illegal and unauthorised processing thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Supply of Coal to West Bengal State Electricity Board

*706 SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has received any intimation from Government of West Bengal that due to poor quality of coal supply and also

due to the delay in coal supply, the power supply, stations of West Bengal under West Bengal State Electricity Board are facing serious difficulties;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government to provide relief; and

(c) the actual requirement of coal for West Bengal State Electricity Board run units in West Bengal during 1983-84 and 1984-85 and how much was supplied?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) to (c). There were two major power stations, viz., Bandel and Santaldih with the West Bengal State Electricity Board during 1983-84. The third power station at Kolaghat came into operation during 1984-85. The linkages provided by the Standing Linkage Committee, the suppliss, and the actual consumption of coal by these power stations during 1983-84 and 1984-85 are given below :

(in lakh tonnes)

Year	Linkage	Supply	Consumption
1983-84	23.64	17.98	16.99
1984-85	33.00	20.52 (Prov.)	18.58

The linkages have not materialised in full due to the following reasons :—

- (i) The actual requirement being less than the linkages;
- (ii) Inadequate facilities at the power stations for handling of coal wagons which resulted in inadequate release of wagons;
- (iii) Inadequate supplies of wagons by the Railways;
- (iv) Restrictions imposed by the West Bengal State Electricity Board on coal despatches, due to inadequate availability of funds with West Bengal State Electricity Board; and
- (v) Delay in the commissioning of the crushers at Kolaghat power station due to which the power station could consume, till now, only washery middlings, the availability of which is limited.

In the recent past there has been no complaint about the quality of coal supplied to the power stations of W.B.S.E.E. As regards quantity, with the commissioning of the crushers of Kolaghat TPS, linkage of middlings will be restored to Santaldih TPS. Besides, Eastern Coalfields Ltd. have started offering coal in rakes of 70 boyes to Santaldih TPS, to increase the supplies to this power station. Supplies will be made to meet the full requirements of the power stations of West Bengal State Electricity Board, provided the power stations release the wagons promptly, and do not impose any restrictions on account of financial constraints.

Import of Tractors from Soviet Union

***707. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to import tractors from Soviet Union;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) whether such import would not affect the indigenous production-sale of tractors adversely?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Credit Renewal to Mauritius

***708. SHRI SOMNATH RATH :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to renew its line of credit to Mauritius in the current financial year;

(a) if so, the amount of credit proposed to be sanctioned to Mauritius during the current financial year; and

(c) the purpose for which the credit is going to be granted to Mauritius and in what form ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). During the visit of the Prime Minister of Mauritius to India in April, 1985, it has been agreed in principle that the

following lines of credit for a total value of Rs. 10 crores would be extended to the Government of Mauritius : (i) Rs. 5 crores on a Government-to-Government basis and (ii) Rs. 5 crores extended by the Export-Import Bank of India.

The Government of Mauritius is to submit the list of goods it desires to be covered under the above credits. Details of the terms and conditions of the credit as also the items to be covered would be decided after receipt of the same.

World Bank Aids in Tamil Nadu

5061. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of aid by World Bank to private and public sector schemes in Tamil Nadu-year-wise from 1980 to 1986; and

(b) the projects involved in these aid and schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The World Bank does not ordinarily give any loans to private sector schemes. Bank assistance has been extended for rural electrification schemes implemented through the Rural Electrification Corporation, a public sector undertaking and also for other State projects. A statement of such projects is enclosed.

Statement

(Amount in US dollar million)

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Date of agreement	Amount of assistance	
			IBRD	IDA
1.	Tamil Nadu Nutrition	12-5-1980	—	32.00
2.	Second Madras Urban Development	14-1-1981	—	42.00
3.	Tamil Nadu Agricultural Extension	7-5-1981	—	28.00
4.	Tamil Nadu Newsprint	23-9-1981	100.00	—
5.	Rural Electrification-III	22-6-1982	10.95	—
6.	Periyar Vaigai Irrigation-II	12-10-1984	—	35.00
7.	Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Sanitation Project	14-11-1984	—	73.00

Additional Machinery for Heat Setting Plant at Machilipatnam in Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh

5062. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a representation has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for installation of additional machinery at the Heat Setting Plant at Machilipatnam, Krishna District as "Special Rehabilitation Project" meant for providing relief of weavers to make the unit a viable one; and

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Senior Officer from the Office of the development Commissioner from Handlooms was deputed for spot study and discussions with the State Officials to assess the actual requirements of the funds. The Officer reported that the water in the area is brackish and is totally unfit for use in the Plant. He further pointed out that the State Government had already taken a decision at the State level to provide good water to the plant from a neighbouring irrigation canal. The Central Government agreed, in principle, to release Rs. 17.00 lakhs during 8-4-85 for purchase of addi-

tional machinery, subject to the water supply scheme being completed by the State Government. The State Government however, have intimated on March 1, 1985 that they will avail of the assistance during the current financial year *i.e.* 1985-86 after the Water Supply Scheme has been completed.

**Income Tax Assessment of Apparels
Export Promotion Council,
New Delhi**

5063. SHRI ANANDAPATHAK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the upto-date information regarding Income-tax assessment of the Apparel Export Promotion Council, New Delhi for the assessment years 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86, that is, incomes returned, income assessed, tax demanded, results of appeal before CII and Tribunal and High Court, etc.;

(b) whether this assessee is being prosecuted for filling wrong returns/verification; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Returns of income has been filed by M/s. Apparel Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the assessment years 1983-84 and 1984-85 declaring 'Nil' incomes. The return of income for the assessment year 1985-86 becomes due on 30-6-1985 and has not so far been filed. Assessments in respect of the assessment years 1983-84 and 1984-85 are pending. No prosecution for filling wrong returns/verifications in respect of these years, has been launched in view of the fact that the assessments are still pending.

**Opening of Branches of Bank of
Tokyo in India**

5064. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branches of Bank of Tokyo have opened in India;

(b) the names of the places where branches have been functioning; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Bank of Tokyo Limited is operating three branches in India, one each at Calcutta, Bombay and New Delhi. These branches have been functioning from 12-3-1953, 21-12-1953 and 6-3-1963 respectively. The particulars of total deposits, advances etc. as on 31-12-1983 of the above branches are given below :

(Rupees in crores)

Customer Deposits	41.83
Customer Credit	23.75
Total assets (excluding contra items)	49.12
Net profit	0.92

Income Tax Raids in Tamil Nadu

5065. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether income tax raids have been conducted in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the number of Income-tax raids conducted in Tamil Nadu between the period from January, 1984 to January, 1985;

(c) the names of the firms, companies etc. in whose premises raids were conducted; and

(d) the details regarding the amount of money and other valuables recovered during these raids ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the period from 1st January, 1984 to 31st January, 1985, the Income-tax Department conducted 244 searches in Tamil Nadu.

(c) Having regard to large number of searches, it is not practicable to give the names of all the parties/cases. However, if the Hon'ble Member desires to have information about a particular search/case, the same can be furnished.

(d) Prima facie unaccounted assets valued at Rs. 455.53 lakhs approximately were

seized in the course of income tax searches during the period.

[Translation]

Illegal Mining of Coal in Santhal Pargana, Giridih and Hazaribagh

5066. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether large scale illegal mining of coal is going on in the Santhal Pargana, Giridih and Hazaribagh Districts of Bihar :

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government to stop this illegal mining and the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) To stop the illegal extraction of coal done sporadically and stealthily, the State Govt. and the coal companies have been asked to take concerned action against the offenders. The State Govt. has already issued instructions to District authorities to take punitive and preventive action under the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act read with Indian Penal Code. The coal companies have also been directed to report to the authorities concerned as and when illegal extraction of coal is detected.

[English]

Spinning Mills Functioning in Maharashtra

5067. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of spinning mills in Maharashtra;

(b) the number out of those which are in co-operative sector; and

(c) the number out of those which are earning profit and the number of mills suffering losses, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :

(a) As on 31st March, 1985 the total No. of spinning mills in Maharashtra was 36.

(b) Of these 36 mills in Maharashtra, 26 mills were in the Cooperative sector.

(c) Out of 26 mills in the Cooperative sector, 8 earned profit and 13 increased loss during 1982-83. Of the remaining 5 mills, the information in respect of 4 mills for 1982-83 is not available while one mill closed in 1982.

Production of Pipes for HBJ Gas Grid and Smaller Dimension Loop Lines by Rourkela Steel Plant

5068. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rourkela Steel Plant is in a position to meet the requirements of pipes for HBJ Gas Grid and smaller dimension loop lines; and

(b) if so, the measures Government have proposed to fully meet tubular requirements of the petroleum industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. Rourkela Steel Plant is in a position to supply 88,798 tonnes of 18" and 24" outer diameter pipes out of a total 442,384 tonnes of pipes required for the HBJ gas pipe line.

(b) In addition to the facilities available at Rourkela Steel Plant, a proposal for setting up a pipe plant at Bhilai Steel Plant to cater to the requirements of the petroleum and other industries is under formulation in SAIL.

Violation of Fast Track Procedure by Banks

5069. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India have introduced a 'fast track' procedure with effect from April, 1984 under which banks have been allowed to release credit subject to the fulfilment of certain conditions;

(b) whether RBI carried out any scrutiny during 1984 to find that the credit limits sanctioned by the banks were need based and not excessive;

(c) if so, the number of banks which

violated the said procedure by releasing credit more than the limit fixed by the RBI; and

(d) the action taken against these banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to available information during 1984, the reserve Bank of India carried out 35 financial inspections and 5 appraisal-cum-financial inspections of banks which covered several aspects of bank financing-including need-based credit limit sanctioned.

(c) and (d). There were no violations by banks about the 'fast track' procedure.

Non-Sanction/Faulty Distribution of Loans by Nationalised Banks in H.P.

5070. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any complaints regarding the non-sanction or faulty distribution of loans by any nationalised bank in Himachal Pradesh in respect of the functioning of scheme for providing loans to the tune of Rs. 25,000 unemployed youth of age group 18-35 years since the inception of the scheme years ago;

(b) if so, the nature of the complaints and the names of the Banks, District-wise against whom such complaints have been received and the action taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the likely date by which any action would be taken and the aggrieved parties ensured redressal of their grievances ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : (a) to (c). In a scheme which is being implemented on such a large scale not only in Himachal Pradesh, but throughout the country there may always be a few complaints regarding delay/non-sanctioning of loans, or faulty distribution. However, complaints whenever they are received, whether in respect of delay or non-sanctioning etc. are got looked into with a view to taking suitable remedial action.

Tea Trading Corporation

5071. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the main activities of Tea Trading Corporation of India Limited;

(b) the amount of expenditure incurred by the Corporation on account of pay, allowances to its officers and employees, office rents and other expenses during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the total expenditure incurred by the Corporation for payment of T.A./D.A. to the Chairman and other officers for visiting foreign countries during the said period;

(d) the amount of expenditure incurred by the Corporation for propaganda works within India and abroad;

(e) the total amount of business transacted during the above period; and

(f) the other measures being taken to boost the trade during the year 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) The main activities of the Tea Trading Corporation of India Limited are :—

(1) Export of tea in value added from (packets, caddies, tea-bags etc.) as also bulk teas, internal sales to institutional buyers like Defence, Railways, Airlines etc.

(2) Management of Tea Gardens.

(3) Production and export of Chinese type green teas.

(4) Management of Public Tea Warehouse on behalf of Government of India.

(5) Promoting Joint Ventures abroad for subserving the main activity of export of machinery and technical man power.

(b) to (e). The information is furnished below :—

	(Rs. in lakhs)		
	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
(i) Pay and allowances to officers and employees	108.16	125.29	130.2
(ii) Rent (including godown)	20.60	16.67	11.30
(iii) Other major expenses	169.54	269.63	158.87
(iv) Expenditure of foreign travel			
Chairman	0.55	1.26	0.30
Others officers	2.35	2.08	5.17
(v) Expenditure incurred on propoganda work in India and abroad (This includes advertising, business promotion, export market, development expenses, exhibition and fairs)	1.83	7.22	7.05
(vi) Business transacted	1784.51	3352.64	3614.46

(f) The Tea Trading Corporation of India Ltd. has already contracted for tea supplies required by Defence Ministry. It is also in constant touch with buyers abroad and is negotiating a joint venture abroad.

CIL's decision to regulate its production during 1985-86

5072. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal India Ltd. has decided to regulate its production during 1985-86;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the collieries where out in production has been proposed by the Coal India Ltd.; and

(d) the extent to which the pit-head stocks in different collieries under the Coal India Ltd. have increased during the past three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) to (c). Coal India have decided to regulate production in some opencast mines where the stocks have built up to very high levels and off-take is inadequate. The names of such collieries in ECL, CCL and WCL are given below :—

Eastern Coalfields Ltd.

Bonjemehari, Sangramgarh, Mohanpur, Dalmiya, Dabur, Gourangdih, Chitra, Simlong, Lalmatia.

Central Coalfields Ltd.

Bhurkunda, Urimari, Religora, Sirka, Dakra, K.D., Bachra, Jagannath, Gidi 'C', Karo OC, Giridih, Jarangdih OC, Swang OC, Pura Dhor, Laiya OC, Tapin North, Tapin South OC, Sugia, Pundi, Rajrappa.

Western Coalfields Ltd.

Umrer, Kusmunda, Gevra, Dhanpuri, Belpahar, Lajkura, Kurasia, Jamuna OC.

(d) Pit head stocks in Coal India Limited in the last three years were as follows :—

	(In million tonnes)
1982-83	21.46
1983-84	21.85
1984-85	29.51

Fazal Committee's Recommendation on Public Undertakings

5073. SHRI MOHAN BHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) when the Fazal Committee on Public Undertakings was appointed;

(b) whether it has completed its work and the report has been submitted to Government;

(c) if so, the details of recommendations made; and

(d) the steps Government have taken to accept those recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI) : (a) The Fazal Committee on Public Undertakings was set up on 12th August, 1980.

(b) Yes, Sir. In all, Fazal Committee submitted 10 Reports.

(c) The main recommendations relate to such measures as are essential for improving the efficiency and production, maximisation of capacity utilisation, control over operational cost, organisational restructuring wherever necessary, delegation of powers down the line and industrial relations, etc. etc. These recommendations, thus, cover various areas of public enterprises' activities, which relate to production management, financial personnel, marketing and material management; including managerial succession and industrial relations as well as provision for captive power plants etc. wherever necessary.

(d) In all, Fazal Committee submitted 10 Reports. 8 of these have already been considered by the Government and 2 Reports are under Consideration.

[Translation]

Opening of Branches of Nationalised Banks

5074. SHRI RAM PRAKASH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of licences given to nationalised banks for opening their branches in Haryana during the year 1984-85;

(b) the number of the branches opened by these Banks as also the names of these banks;

(c) the time by which the remaining branches are likely to be opened; and

(d) the reasons for delay in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI) : (a) During the period April 1984 to March 1985, nationalised banks have been given 31 authorisations/licences for opening branches in Haryana.

(b) These banks have during the above period opened 5 branches as per details given below :—

Name of the banks	No. of branches opened
Punjab National Bank	1
Syndicate Bank	1
United Commercial Bank	1
Central Bank of India	1
Canara Bank	1

(c) and (d). The banks require some-time to complete the process of opening branches at the allotted centres. In a few cases, lack of infrastructural facilities or non-availability of suitable accommodation also pose difficulty in opening offices. With a view to expediting opening of branches by banks at the allotted centres, Task Forces consisting of representatives of State Government, NABARD and Reserve Bank of India have been set up at each of Reserve Bank of India's Regional Office.

[English]

Productivity drive in the field of Coal

5075. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have launched any productivity drive in the field of coal in the current financial year;

(b) if so, the whether Government propose to increase the production of coal in the current year; and

(c) if so, the target of coal production set for the year 1984-85 and the actual production ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). Efforts are being made to increase productivity in coal industry by mechanisa-

tion, adopting advanced technology redeployment of surplus labour by having more open cast mining and by improving working conditions in coal mines.

To meet the increased demand of coal consumers, a higher production target of 158.50 million tonnes has been fixed for the year 1985-86.

Target of production and the actual achievement during 1984-85 is given below :—

	(in million tonnes)
Target	152.00
Actual production	147.45

Energy used in Manufacture of Per Unit of Steel

5076. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the energy used in manufacture of per unit of steel is one of the highest in the world;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore; and

(c) the highest and lowest per unit energy used in the world and India's position therein and corrective steps taken/proposed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). It is correct that in view of the stage of technology in the Indian Steel plants the energy consumption is high. The main reasons for the high energy consumption are :

(i) **High Coke rate** : On account of :

—high ash in coking coal (19-22%) alongwith inferior coking properties and consequently high coke ash (25-29%) and poor coke strength as against the coking coal ash of below 10% and coke ash of upto 13% in the developed countries.

—adequate preparation and averaging facilities of raw materials were not originally provided, this results in unprepared burden for Blast Furnaces.

—low sinter rate (upto 60%) in blast furnace burden as against almost 100% abroad.

—lack of introduction of modern technological developments.

(ii) About 50% of steel production of India is through the energy intensive Open Hearth Furnace.

(iii) Hot metal usage in oxygen blown LD steel being high (925-1020 kg/t of steel) due to higher silicon content as against 750 kg/t of steel in the developed countries.

(iv) Almost 100% of the steel is cast through ingot casting route instead of continuous casting route: this results in lower metallic yield.

(v) Instrumentation and automation systems are inadequate and obsolete.

(c) Broad indicative figures according to available information for the following countries are as follows :

(G. Cal/tonne of Crude Steel)

France	5.687
F.R. Germany	5.239
Italy	4.049
Netherlands	4.610
United States	5.973
Japan	4.545
India	9.6

(The basis of calculations of different countries are not known and may differ from country to country.)

In order to bring down the specific energy consumption rate in SAIL steel plants, several modernisation measures are being considered, some of which are :

—stamp-charging of coal charge;

—partial briquetting of coal charge;

—modernisation of the existing sinter plants and installation of new sinter plants;

- intensification of blast furnaces;
- replacement of open hearth furnaces by oxygen steel making converters;
- large scale adoption of continuous casting;
- modernisation of rolling mill;
- introduction of computer control system in all the shops;
- introduction of waste energy recovery processes like coke dry quenching, heat recovery systems in sinter plant, reheating furnaces, power generation using blast furnaces top gas pressure.

Relief to Families of Workers Killed in Accidents in Coal Mines Under CIL

5077. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the details regarding the compensation, provident fund, gratuity, life cover schemes paid to each of the families of workers who were killed in accidents in coal mines under the Coal India Limited during the last 2 years; and

(b) whether Government have taken some steps for the speedy payment to the families of the victims ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Delegation of Indian Businessmen and Entrepreneurs to Visit Expo-85 Organised by Japan

5078. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to send a delegation of Indian businessmen and entrepreneurs to visit Expo-85 organised by Japan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c). No proposal for

sending a delegation of Indian businessmen and entrepreneurs to visit Expo-85 (organised by Japan) has been received by the Government yet.

[Translation]

Setting up of Banks for Uplift of Weavers in Barabanki, U. P.

5079. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the places in the country where Government have set up banks so far exclusively for the uplift of weavers, small entrepreneurs and minorities;

(b) the number of banks Government propose to set up in district Barabanki in Uttar Pradesh separately for the uplift of weavers, minorities and small entrepreneurs and for providing assistance for export purpose;

(c) the names of the places where these banks will be set up; and

(d) if these are not proposed to be set up, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). Government have not set up any bank exclusively for the weavers, small entrepreneurs and minorities. The advances given to small entrepreneurs are included in priority sector and all nationalised banks were given a target to lend atleast 40 per cent of total bank credit to priority sector by the end of March '85. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has been sanctioning credit limits to State Cooperative Banks on behalf of Central Cooperative Banks for financing the production and marketing activities of primary weavers' societies.

[English]

Customs Clearance Procedure

5080. SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether orders have been issued to customs for 100 per cent check on passengers going through green and other channels at airports, in case of those travelling to Far East and back; and

(b) how do these orders reconcile with Government's claim that the procedure for customs clearance has been simplified and causes no delay or harassment to the travellers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). No such orders have been issued. In fact, majority of passengers 'Walk Through' the Green Channel and those opting for the Red Channel are cleared on the basis of their oral declarations. However, random checking of passengers on a selective basis is being done in both the Green Channel and the Red Channel. In addition, to prevent abuse of the facility, a few flights are occasionally subjected to 100% examination. Since the examination is done on a selective basis only to prevent abuse, it cannot be said to be contrary to the simplification and facilitation measures adopted to accelerate the clearance of passengers.

Central Excise Duty on Glassware Industry

5081. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the glassware industry in the country under the Central Excise and Salt Act, is subject to a very heavy rate of Central Excise in the automatic and semi-automatic sectors, ranging from 35 per cent to 5 per cent depending upon the items produced and also 5 per cent special excise duty;

(b) whether this also applies to U. P. Glass Manufacturers' Syndicate; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The basic effective rates of excise duty on glass and glassware, other than flat glass, laboratory glassware, glass shells, glass globes and chimneys for lamps and lanterns, laminated glass and toughened glass, is 15% ad-valorem applicable on other glass and glassware produced by manually operated press by manufacturers having pot furnaces and not using power in relation to such manufacture. The rate of duty of 20% ad-valorem is applicable to glassware (except on tableware

and articles of decoration) produced by mouth blown process and glassware produced by manually operated press by manufacturers having tank furnaces. The duty is 25% ad-valorem on glassware including tableware produced by semi-automatic process, and tableware and articles of decoration produced by mouth blown process. Certain products covered by 'other glass and glassware' bear a duty of 35% ad-valorem. Laboratory glassware, glass bangles and glass beads, unfinished glass inners, broken glass, and glass ampoules and glass vials for injectables, attract nil rate of duty. An effective duty of 5% ad-valorem is leviable on glass chimneys for lamps and lanterns, Flat glass attract specific rates of duty. A special excise duty of 5% of the basic excise duty is additionally leviable on all the above items.

The general duty incidence on glassware is not regarded as too high particularly when it is viewed that there are many excisable commodities which bear similar or even higher duty incidence. Moreover, in the case of many excisable commodities, a substantial duty burden is also borne at the input/intermediate stage in addition to duty leviable on the finished products, which is, however, not so in the case of glass and glassware.

(b) and (c). The rate of excise duty is uniformly applicable to all manufacturers and the duty rate will depend on the nature of the products and the process adopted by the manufacturers of such glassware. There is no special rate prescribed for manufacturers belonging to U. P. Glass Manufacturers Syndicate.

Customs Duty on Import of Mercedes-240

5082. SHRIMATI VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Mercedes-240 imported in the country and the details of persons who imported these vehicles;

(b) the details of the invoice value/cost of these vehicles and the amount of custom duty, etc. recovered in each case;

(c) whether Custom Authorities have released these vehicles to those persons also who had pleaded that they had lost their invoices; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Custom Houses do not maintain statistics of imports of individual models of cars.

(c) and (d). The assessable value of cars, for determination of duty, is arrived at on the basis of manufacturers' price list after allowing appropriate trade discount and depreciation depending upon the period of use.

Opening of Branches of Indian Banks in Japan

5083. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Indian banks have opened their branches in Japan,

(b) if so, the names of the Indian banks which have opened their branches in that country; and

(c) since when and the number of branches of these Indian banks functioning in that country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). State Bank of India and Bank of India are operating 2 branches each in Japan. The dates since when these branches are functioning are indicated below :

Name of Bank	Place of branch	Date of opening
State Bank of India	Tokyo	23-1-1980
	Osaka	5-9-1984
Bank of India	Tokyo	17-5-1950
	Osaka	20-10-1950

Target achieved by Branches of Various Banks in Gaya District, Bihar

5084. SHRI RAMSHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether various branches of the State Bank of India and Punjab National Bank in Gaya District of Bihar State have not achieved the targets of agriculture, minor irrigation, Integrated Rural Development Programme and small scale industry financing during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the year-wise details under the above mentioned heads; and

(d) the targets allocated by D.L.C.C. to various branches during the above mentioned period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). Present data reporting system does not yield branch-wise and district-wise information for various schemes launched for the development of rural areas. Time, money and man-power required to maintain such a detailed information at the Central level are not expected to commensurate with the results likely to be achieved. However, the targets fixed for the calendar year 1984 in the Annual Action Plan of Gaya District and achievements till September, 1984 in respect of State Bank of India and Punjab National Bank have been as under :

(Rs. in lakhs)		
Sector	State Bank of India	Punjab National Bank
Agriculture		
Targets	37.59	55.57
Achievements	7.40	26.48
Small Scale Industries		
Targets	12.36	17.48
Achievements	22.24	13.62
Other Services		
Targets	20.67	37.87
Achievements	45.39	69.97

Control of Pollution in Integrated Steel Plants.

5085. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study had been made at any stage on pollution control (both air and water) in respect of the six integrated steel plants under his Ministry;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the requirements for compliance with MINAS (Minimum National Standards) laid down for the guidance of the steel plants; and

(d) the element of foreign technology and import involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. Studies have been carried out by well known national institutions with regard to air pollution and allied matters at Bhilal Steel Plant and Rourkela Steel Plant. Similar studies have been carried out by Bokaro Steel Plant with their own resources. Negotiations are in progress with various agencies for carrying out similar studies at Durgapur Steel Plant and Indian Iron and Steel Company, Burnpur.

(b) Various studies have shown the need for further steps to control pollution and action plans have been drawn up for implementation in the Seventh Plan period.

(c) Minimum National Standards for the steel plants have not been laid down so far. Certain norms for control of air pollution have been specified by the Central Board for the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution. The Water Pollution Control Act was enacted in 1974 and the State Control Boards have also adopted these standards to suit the respective regions.

(d) Pollution control equipments like ventuari scrubbers and electrostatic precipitators (ESPs) for control of air pollution, effluent treatment plants are manufactured within the country although with varying degrees of efficiency. With the change in technology of iron and steel making as well as shaping of steel, some of the specialised type of control equipment may have to be imported alongwith the main equipment until the technology of designing and manufacture is absorbed in the country.

Losses/Profits in Units Under N.T.C.

5086. SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of yearly losses/profits of each units of Swadeshi Cotton Mills Company Limited since take over i.e. 1978 to 1984-85;

(b) the details of losses/liabilities of Swadeshi Cotton Mills Company Limited during pre-take over/at the time of take over;

(c) the extent of liabilities of SCM units under National Textiles Corporation at present; and

(d) the remedial measures Government propose to take in public interest and worker's interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) The losses suffered by each unit of Swadeshi Cotton Mills Co. from 1978-79 to 1984-85 are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) The carried over losses, as on 31-3-1978, of the SCM Co. was Rs. 777.19 lakhs. The liabilities of SCM Co. as on 31-3-78 were as under:

	(Rs. in lakhs)
(a) Secured loans	975.36
(b) Deferred Payments	236.64
(c) Workers Dues	877.83
(d) Statutory Dues	299.25
(e) Other creditors	515.56
Total :	2904.64

(c) The liabilities of SCM units under NTC as on 31st March, 1985 for the post-takeover period amount to Rs. 4969.49 lakhs.

(d) The following steps have been/are being taken to improve the performance of these mills :

- (i) improvements in product-mix to fetch higher realisation;
- (ii) greater control on wastes and damages through process control at various stages;
- (iii) economy and control in cotton mixing costs, consumable stores, spares, dyes and chemicals, etc. and
- (iv) control on coal cost through better tie-up with Railway authorities and Coal India.

Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
1. Swadeshi Cotton Mill, Maunath Bhanjan	+62.92	+67.55	+59.97	-26.87	-12.18	-32.41	-62.31
2. Udaipur Cotton Mills, Udaipur	+38.71	+61.03	+24.81	-13.41	-14.77	-15.82	-46.57
3. Raebareli Textile Mills, Raebareli	+0.69	-3.26	-16.02	-40.38	-54.63	-73.05	-83.26
4. Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Naini	+84.82	+115.75	+106.27	-55.13	-56.87	-183.41	-237.74
5. Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Kanpur	-34.76	-118.21	-107.26	-542.38	-509.19	-852.09	-1175.16
6. Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Pondicherry	+47.62	+8.59	+0.74	-99.39	-69.32	-162.20	-215.22
Total	+200.00	+61.48	+68.51	-777.58	-716.96	-1318.96	-1820.26

**Decline in Non-Statutory Assistance
by Union Government to
Government of Kerala**

5087. SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be
pleased to state :

(a) the details of transfer of resources from the Union to the state of Kerala during the last three years, both in terms of devolution of taxes and Central contribution to plan expenditure and non-plan assistance and assistance for natural calamities, such as

floods, drought and sea erosion;

(b) whether the non-statutory assistance has shown a decline; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) A State-
ment is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Statemenet

*Details of transfer of resources from the Union to the State of Kerala
during the years 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85*

(Rs. crores)

Head of Account	1982-83 A/c	1983-84 A/c	1984-84 B/c
1. Statutory Transfers			
(i) Share in Central taxes	185.94	211.00	228.92
(ii) Non-Plan Statutory Grants	0.06	2.05	0.06
Total	186.00	213.5	228.98
2. Medium-term loans for specific purpose and assistance for natural calamities			
(i) Assistance released for natural calamities	2.00	38.36	14.80
(ii) Medium-term loan	93.93	62.26*	—
Total	95.93	100.62	14.80
3. Other Transfers			
(i) Central assistance for State Plans	100.40	111.67	120.57
(ii) Central assistance for Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored schemes	38.74	69.96	70.27
(iii) Share in Shall Savings	14.83	13.33	21.00
(iv) Non-Plan Grants	3.13	2.85	3.76
(v) Non-Plan loans and advances	3.83	3.47	4.11
Total	160.93	201.28	219.71

*Includes Rs. 20.00 crores of medium term loan for land acquisition for naval academy.
Source : State Budgets 1984-85 and 1985-86.

Trade between India and New Zealand

5088. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of New Zealand has expressed their desire to expand trade with India;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) the steps taken to establish better trade and economic co-operation with New Zealand; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (d). During his recent visit to India, the Prime Minister of New Zealand expressed a desire to expand trade with India. The Government of India welcomed this suggestion. The New Zealand Government have re-established their High Commissioner in India and a Trade Commissioner has also been posted in Delhi. The Government of India has reciprocated this by posting a full-fledged High Commissioner in New Zealand and the staff in the Indian High Commission in being appropriately strengthened.

Coffee Production

5089. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of coffee produced in the country;

(b) the total quantity of coffee and coffee products consumed in the country annually; and

(c) the amount of foreign exchange earned annually through export of coffee by the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) The total quantity of coffee produced in the country for 1984-85 crop is provisionally estimated to be of the order of 1,80,000 tonnes.

(b) The total consumption is currently estimated at around 55,000 tonnes.

(c) The foreign exchange earnings for

1984-85 are provisionally estimated to be of the order of Rs. 205 crores.

C.B.I. Raids in Calcutta

5090. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to a news-item captioned "Chatkal Malikder Bari Tallashi, Sethiar Sange Yog Actie Sandetre Kolkatai Hana" (Jute Mill Owners' Houses searched, Raids in Calcutta due to suspicion of connection with Sethia) published in Bengali newspaper Ajkal of 23 February, 1985;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the results achieved by C.B.I. raids?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The Central Bureau of Investigation has reported that it did not carry out any search, referred to in the news item, in connection with Sethia's case.

Danish International Development Agency Projects

5091. SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the particulars of the projects of Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) in India;

(b) its financial contribution this year and subsequent years; and

(c) the number of projects to be taken up in future and the cost thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) A Statement of projects for financing from the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) in India is enclosed.

(b) The financial contribution from DANIDA for this year and years to come is as follows :

Year	Danish Grant (Dkr million)	Danish Loan (Dkr million)
1985	170	170
1986	180	Not Available
1987	200	Not Available
1988	220	Not Available

(c) The projects to be taken up in future by DANIDA would depend on appraisal and approval by DANIDA and it is not possible to indicate the specific amounts or specific projects in advance.

Statement

Projects under Finance from the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Amount (Danish Kroner million)
1	2	3

LOAN

1.	Consultancy contract and Catalyst import for Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizer Ltd. (That Project)	240.0
2.	Fisheries Oceanographic Research Vessel alongwith spares	138.5
3.	Incineration Plant	159.0
4.	Consultancy services and Catalyst import for gas based urea plant at Guna of National Fertilizers Ltd.	140.0
5.	Merchant Marine Training Vessel	50.0

GRANT

1.	Small Farmers Development Pproject in Bihar	10.0
2.	North Kanara Integrated Development Project	59.8
3.	PADI/DANIDA FUND ...	5.0
4.	Food and Mouth Disease Vaccine Centre, Poona	10.0
5.	Animal Disease Surveillance Centre	4.8
6.	Training Centre of Frozen Semen Technique	1.5
7.	Seed Procurement and Tree Improvement	4.1
8.	All India Spare Parts Depot	7.05
9.	Integrated Fisheries Project Tadri, Karnataka	37.0
10.	Karnataka Agricultural Extension Project	44.8
11.	Seed Pathology Training and Extension	2.3
12.	Irrigation Facilities at Cattle Breeding Farms at Chiplima and Bhadbhada	2.5
13.	Prototype Development and Training Centre, Madras	18.7

1	2	3
14.	Tool Room and Training Centre, Delhi	32.5
15.	Central Tool and Training Centre, Calcutta	40.0
16.	Government Tool and Training Centre, Bangalore	4.3
17.	National Programme for Control of Blindness	72.0
18.	Health Care and Family Welfare Project, Madhya Pradesh	175.0
19.	Health Care and Family Welfare Project, Tamil Nadu	153.0
20.	National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, Delhi	7.6
21.	Survey Research and Training Centre	2.0
22.	Janatha Housing Water Supply, Karnataka	19.7
23.	Rejuvenation of Hand Pumps in Tamil Nadu	7.8
24.	Rejuvenation of Hand Pumps Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh	56.3
25.	Flood Simulation Modelling	2.9
26.	Rural Drinking Water Supply, Kerala	150.0
27.	Rural Drinking Water Supply, Orissa	260.0
28.	National Leprosy Eradication Programme	60.0
29.	Agriculture Extension in Tamil Nadu	15.0
30.	Rural Water Supply in Tamil Nadu	110.0
31.	Equipment for Fishery and Oceanographic Research Vessel (FORV)	17.30

**Rise in Prices of Essential Commodities
Due to Budgetary Levies**

5092. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of essential commodities have been risen as a result of budgetary levies;

(b) if so, the percentage of increase in prices of essential commodities; and

(c) the steps taken to see that the prices do not rise beyond the levies imposed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : (a) and (b). In the four week since the presentation of the Budget for 1985-86, wholesale price of some essential commodities have increased (as for example, rice, sugar, vanaspati, potatoes and tea) while prices of some others have declined (for example wheat, ground-

nut oil, mustard oil and coconut oil). Prices of many commodities usually come under seasonal pressure at this time of the year and only a small proportion of the rise in wholesale price index during this period can be attributed to Budget levies.

(c) After the presentation of the general budget the Central Government has advised the State Governments to take strict action against traders indulging in profiteering, hoarding and blackmarketing.

**Gradation of Kerala as surplus State
by 8th Finance Commission**

5093. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Eighth Finance Commission has graded Kerala as a surplus State;

(b) whether the State Government has contradicted it with documentary evidence; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Kerala has been assessed a revenue surplus State by the Eighth Finance Commission after taking into account the Central devolution of taxes.

(b) Government of Kerala had stated that the assessment made in the Planning Commission while working out the State's resources for the 7th Five Year Plan had indicated a revenue deficit.

(c) Government of India had informed the State Government that there are bound to be variations between the estimates of the Planning Commission and the Finance Commission due to differences in period of reference, base year adopted for revenue and expenditure calculations and the norms adopted in estimating the receipts from the Public Sector Undertakings and are therefore not comparable.

Export of Marine Products

5094. SHRI S. G. GHOLAP : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total export of marine products during each of the last three years; and

(b) the quantity of frozen fish, frozen shrimps, frozen lobster tail, frozen frog leg and dried fish exported each year respectively ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Total exports of Marine Products during the last 3 years are :

1982-83	: Qty	: 78175 Tonnes
	Value	Rs. 361.36 Crores.
1983-84	: Qty	: 92691 Tonnes
	Value	Rs. 373.02 Crores.
1984-85	: Qty	: 85393 Tonnes
(provisional)	: Value	Rs. 382.14 Crores.

(b)	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85 (provisional)
	(Quantity in Tonnes)		
Frozen fish	12847	22573	8732
Frozen Shrimp	55002	54444	54418
Frozen Lobster Tails	749	648	1031
Frozen Frog Legs	1896	2428	3023
Dried Fish	2597	6492	12487

Abolition of Excise Duty and Import Levies on Kraft Papers

5095. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Federation of Corrugated Box Manufacturers of India have urged Government to abolish the excise duty on raw material of kraft paper and reduction of import levies etc;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The Federation of Corrugated Box Manufacturers of India has not urged for abolition of excise duty and reduction of import levies on raw material of kraft paper etc.

(b) and (c). In view of reply to (a), the question does not arise.

Import of Textiles by Sri Lanka

5096. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Sri Lanka has resumed import of Indian textiles after a break of one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to promote the sale thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) The Government is not aware of any stoppage of import of Textiles by Sri Lanka from India.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The general schemes for promotion of exports of textiles apply to Sri Lanka also.

Bhashkra Textile Mills, Jharsuguda

5097. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal from Government of Orissa to nationalise the closed Bhashkra Textile Mills, Jharsuguda has been received;

(b) if so, when it has been received; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A proposal for the nationalisation of the mill by the State Government was received in January, 1985.

(c) The matter is in correspondence with the State Government.

[*Translation*]

Coal pound in Mehsana District of Gujarat

5098. SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether some coal bearing areas have been found in Mehsana district in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the time by which the same are likely to be mined for consumption;

(c) the details of the programme drawn for mining this coal; and

(d) the estimated quantum of coal likely to be mined there and the expenditure involved therein ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (d). Coal deposits have been located by Oil and Natural Gas Commission during exploration for oil bearing strata in the Cambay Basin of Gujarat covering Mehsana and Kalol. The Coal reserves occur in depth range between 600-1700 metres below ground level. Appropriate exploitation technology for such deep deposits is yet to be investigated. Techno-economic feasibility study for exploitation is possible only after completing detailed geological work.

[*English*]

Spinning Mills in M.P.

5099. KUMARI PUSPA DEVI : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of spinning mills set up in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) since when those spinning mills have started commercial production;

(c) the number of those spinning mills running in profit;

(d) the number of people who have been provided employment in those mills; and

(e) the details of the location of those mills ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) to (e). Statement giving details is enclosed.

Statement

The following table gives the list of Spinning Mills in Madhya Pradesh with their locations, the date of commencement of commercial production, installed capacity of spindles employees on roll and actually employed and Profit/Loss made.

Sr. No.	Name of the mill with location	Date of commencement of commercial production	Installed capacity of spindles	Employees		Profit/Loss (Rs. in lakhs) (+ profit—loss)
				On Roll	Actually Employed	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Motilal Agrawal Mills Ltd. Birla Nagar Gwalior	N.A.	20,020	171	N.A.	N.A.
2.	M.P. State Textile Corp. Ltd., Indore-Khandwa Road, Samawad	9-3-64	25,240	1504	828	N.A.
3.	Nimar Textiles Ltd. Indore Road, Khandwa	1-4-66	24,200	802	655	(—) 43.45 (As per balance sheet for 31 Dec., 83)
4.	Bilaspur Spinning Mills and Industries Ltd. Bilaspur	N.A.	25,024	1148	633	N.A.
5.	Bharat Commerce and Industries Ltd. Birlagram, Nagda	March, 57	31,056	2968	1826	(—) 61.8 (As per balance sheet for 31 Dec., 83)
6.	Co-op. Spg. Mills Ltd. Burhanpur	N.A.	25,080	1132	667	(—) 33.80 (As per balance sheet for 30 June, 83)
7.	M/s. Rajbahadur Kanhaivalal Bhandari Mills (Unit of Hope Textiles) Malgodown, Indore	1-4-57	10,120	257	175	N.A.

**Setting up of Cold Rolling Mill Complex
in Orissa**

5100. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :
Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND
COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has received applications from Government of Orissa to set up Cold-Rolling Mill Complex in that State;

(b) whether these applications are pending for clearance; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to clear those pending applications ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K.
NATWAR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[Translation]

**Credit Schemes prepared by Lead Banks
for Adivasi and Backward Areas**

5101. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased
to state :

(a) whether various nationalised banks have been declared as lead banks for adivasi and backward areas;

(b) whether such lead banks prepare credit schemes for the districts;

(c) if so, the names of the districts in Madhya Pradesh where such banks have

prepared credit schemes indicating the names of those banks and since when;

(d) whether the banks operating in these districts have achieved the targets of expansion of credit facilities envisaged in these credit schemes;

(e) if not, the names of the banks which have not achieved the targets;

(f) whether any action has been taken against such banks this regard; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANAR-
DHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Under the 'Lead Bank Scheme', all the districts in the country were allocated to different banks including Nationalised Banks which were designated as 'Lead Banks' of the respective districts. Adivasi and backward areas in different districts will fall under the lead responsibility of the concerned lead banks. District Credit Plans/Annual Action Plans as per Reserve Bank of India's guidelines are prepared by the Lead Banks for the development of the districts in their charge from 1980 onwards. A statement showing bankwise allocation of lead districts in Madhya Pradesh is set out in the statement attached.

(d) to (g). The performance under Annual Action Plan 1983 for all the lead districts in Madhya Pradesh taken together was satisfactory and the relevant details are furnished below :—

(Rs. in Crores)

	Target	Achievement	Percentage achievement
Agriculture	305.68	285.37	93.4
Small Scale Industries	28.56	37.38	130.9
Services	35.65	83.03	232.9
Total	369.89	405.78	109.7

Statement*Statement showing back-wise allocation of lead districts in Madhya Pradesh*

Name of the lead banks	Name of lead districts
1. State Bank of India	1. Bastar 2. Bilaspur 4. Chhatarpur 4. Damoh 5. Panna 6. Raigarh 7. Tikkamgarh
2. State Bank of Indore	1. Guna 2. Shivpuri 3. Vidisha
3. Allahabad Bank	1. Satna
4. Bank of India	1. Dhar 2. West Nimar 3. East Nimar 4. Dewas 5. Indore 6. Ujjain 7. Shajapur 8. Rajgarh 9. Sehore 10. Bhopal
5. Bank of Baroda	1. Jhabua
6. Punjab National Bank	1. Datia
7. Dena Bank	1. Durg 2. Rajanandgaon 3. Raipur
8. Union Bank of India	1. Rewa 2. Sidhi
9. Central Bank of India	1. Mandsaur 2. Ratlam 3. Bhind 4. Gwalior 5. Morena 6. Sagar 7. Raisen 8. Hoshangabad 9. Betul 10. Chhindwara 11. Narasingpur 12. Seoni 13. Balaghat 14. Mandla 15. Jabalpur 16. Shahadol 17. Surguja

[English]**Grant of Relief to Victims of Hailstorms,
Early Snowfall and Incessant
Rains in J and K**

5102. PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the former Minister of Finance had made a commitment in 1984 that the Ministry would examine the matter relating to grant of relief to victims of hail-storm, early snowfall and incessant rains in Jammu and Kashmir State between 1982 and 1983; and

(b) if so, whether any measures were taken in that direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). A ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 100.40 lakhs was approved for J and K Government for

1983-84 towards relief of distress caused by damage to Rabi and Kharif crops during 1982. As this amount was within the annual margin money of Rs. 130 lakhs for the State, no Central assistance was released to them. The State Government reported that no balance amount was available from out of the margin money as the expenditure every year had been in excess of the annual margin money. The State Government was requested to furnish the details of such expenditure. The State Government furnished certain particulars for 1979-80 to 1983-84. Since they were not complete, the State has been requested to furnish further details.

Loans Disbursed by Rural Banks in Bihar

5103. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of rural banks at present operating in Bihar;

(b) the quantum of loans, disbursed by these banks during the last three years;

(c) what is the recovery position; and

(d) the number of small farmers and marginal farmers who availed of such loans during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) At present, 22 Regional Rural Banks are operating in Bihar.

(b) Yearwise information on loans disbursed by regional rural banks in Bihar is not available. However, the total outstand-

ing amount of loans as at the end of December 1982, 1983 and 1984 is indicated below :

(Rs. in lakhs)

As at the end of	Amount of loans outstanding
December 1982	6791.41
December 1983	9475.15
December 1984	13378.05

(c) Recovery position available as at the end June 1983 and end June 1984 is given below :

(Rs. in lakhs)

As at the end of	Demand	Recovery	% of recovery to Demand
June 1983	3169.62	1583.02	50%
June 1984	4475.09	2131.19	48%

(d) The number of small and marginal farmers who have availed of loans from the regional rural banks in Bihar in the last three years is indicated in the following table :

Purpose of loan	No. of Accounts		
	Dec. 82	Dec. 83	Dec. 84
(1) Crop loans	79257	86429	89063
(2) Agricultural term loans	91881	117973	144731
(3) Activities* Allied to Agriculture	94982	159185	221948
Total	266120	363587	455742

*No. of accounts under activities 'allied to agriculture' include landless labourers also.

Benefits of Group Insurance Scheme to Junior Accounts Officers Vis-a-Vis Assistants

5104. SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that an Assistant working in Ministries in the pay scale of Rs. 425-500 is in Group 'B' non-gazetted status and is entitled to a benefit of Rs. 40,000 under the new Central Government Group Insurance Scheme whereas a Junior Accounts Officer in the pay scale of Rs. 500-900 in

Group 'C' non-gazetted status is entitled to Rs. 20,000 under the new insurance scheme; and

(b) if so, the reasons for this discrimination in even though the Junior Accounts Officers are in the higher pay scale than the Assistants.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Subscription is recovered and benefits are given in the Central Government Employees Group Insurance Scheme in accordance with the

classifications (*i.e.* Groups) under the Central Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1965 and not on the basis of designation or grade. Assistants in the Central Secretariat Service are classified as Group 'B' and Junior Accounts Officers etc. are classified as Group 'C'.

(b) Assistants of Central Secretariat Service are classified as Group 'B' non-gazetted since the president is the appointing authority in their case and they have enjoyed this status historically even before 1948.

Wastage of Coal

5105. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether every year coal worth several crores of rupees goes up in smoke;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

National Prices Commission

5106. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to set up a National Prices Commission; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Grant of Loans by Banks on Oral Instructions

5107. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state whether instructions had been issued by Government to all the nationalised banks that they should not act on oral instructions in the matter of granting of loans ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : Chairmen

and Managing Directors/Chief Executives of public sector banks and financial institutions have been instructed not to take cognizance of oral instructions at whatever level from Ministry of Finance or any other ministries or offices regarding matters which are within their powers. In exceptional cases, where because of sensitive nature of the case, or the need for speed, it becomes necessary to send oral communications, such communications will be sent at the level of the Joint Secretary in the Banking Division of the Ministry of Finance or the Government Directors on the banks. In such cases, the bank or the financial institution is expected to record the oral instructions received with appropriate security classification and send a copy to the officer concerned. No oral instructions are, however, to be sent regarding grant of bank loans.

[Translation]

Licences Issued by RBI to Central Bank of India for Opening Branches in U. P.

5108. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of licences issued by the Reserve Bank of India to the Central Bank of India for opening its branches in hill areas in Uttar Pradesh and the dates on which these licences were issued;

(b) the number of branches, out of the sanctioned ones, opened so far by the Bank; and

(c) the reasons for the delay in opening the branches by the Central Bank and the steps being taken by his Ministry for removing the causes of delay in opening these branches ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The Reserve Bank of India has reported that 15 licences were issued to Central Bank of India for opening branches in the hill areas of Uttar Pradesh. Of these, 11 licences have been utilised by the bank. Districtwise, centrewise and yearwise details are set out in the statement attached.

The bank has been advised to take effective steps for the utilisation of pending licences.

Statement

Statement showing districtwise details of licences issued to the Central Bank of India in the hill areas of Uttar Pradesh

District	Centre	Date on which licence issued	Date of opening the branch
Nainital	Haldwani	—	1-12-1944
	Ramnagar	31-1-1969	22-5-1969
	Garampani	22-1-1975	19-7-1975
	Rudrapur	15-4-1975	8-10-1976
	Nainital	15-4-1975	9-10-1976
	Kashipur	4-4-1984	—
Almora	Hawalbagh	20-4-1977	14-10-1977
	Almora	30-3-1985	—
Dehradun	Dehradun (Rajpur Road)	—	30-7-1947
	Dehradun (Arhat Bazar)	26-6-1969	17-10-1969
	Dehradun (Forest Research Institute)	3-2-1970	30-5-1970
	Pondiwari	2-9-1980	16-9-1980
	Selakui	24-12-1980	3-3-1981
Pauri Garhwal	Pauri	31-1-1985	—
Pithoragarh	Pithoragarh	17-7-1984	—

**Residential Accommodation to Employees
of L.I.C.**

5109. SHRI MADAN PANDEY :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased
to state :

(a) the number of permanent employees
of various categories in the Life Insurance
Corporation at present;

(b) the number of employees out of
them, provided residential accommodation
so far;

(c) whether there is a discontentment
among the employees on this count which is
affecting their efficiency; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be

taken by Government to improve the situa-
tion in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d).
The number of permanent employees of
various categories in the LIC as per audited
accounts as on 31-3-1984 is as follows:—

Class I Officers	5790
Class II Officers	6649
Class III Employees	40178
Class IV Employees	7823
Total	60440

Total number of staff quarters of LIC is 4723.

The LIC has been receiving representations from Class III and Class IV employees for construction of more staff quarters. In order to mitigate their hardship the Corporation has been approving construction of staff quarters at project towns and difficult stations. The Corporation has also been encouraging its employees to construct their own houses by advancing loans at concessional rates of interest under its existing schemes. Loans have been sanctioned by the Corporation to 17,485 employees for construction of their own houses so far.

Gold Control Act

5110. SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the extent to which the smuggling of gold has been curbed as a result of the Gold Control Act;

(b) the approximate annual expenditure incurred in enforcing the provisions of this Act and the revenue earned as a result thereof; and

(c) how far the goldsmiths in the rural areas have been affected the number of persons who have been rendered unemployed as a result of this Act ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) One of the objectives of the Gold (Control) Act, 1968 is to serve as an economic measure to supplement other preventive measures by making the circulation of smuggled gold difficult and its detection easier by extending the control over gold beyond the stage of import. Thus the Act serves as a second line of defence against smuggling of gold in the country. It helps in the anti-smuggling efforts.

(b) The average expenditure on the Gold Control Administration is Rs. 50 lakhs approximately per annum. The Gold (Control) Act, 1968 is not a revenue earning Act but is a regulatory one.

(c) The restriction on the manufacture of ornaments exceeding 14 carats in purity, introduced as one of the Gold Control measures in 1963, adversely affected the goldsmiths. In order to rehabilitate the affected

goldsmiths various measures such as sanctioning of loans to them, assisting them to switch over to other professions, extension of technical training facilities etc. were initiated at that time. Subsequently, as a measure of further relief, the restriction on the manufacture of ornaments of more than 14 carat purity was removed in 1966. A liberalised policy with regard to the issue of certificates to carry on business as goldsmiths was also adopted apart from taking steps to write off the loans that were sanctioned earlier to the affected goldsmiths.

[English]

Caution to Co-operative Banks against Launching Deposit Mobilisation

5111. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether recently the Governor of State Bank of India has cautioned the co-operative banks against launching deposit mobilisation scheme carrying an element of lottery and prizes;

(b) if so, the details of the allurements now being given by these co-operative banks and now they have come to adopt it when it is not permitted;

(c) whether positive directive/orders have been given to banks to desist from such practices; and

(d) if, so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). Reserve Bank of India issued instructions in August, 1983 to Urban Co-operative Banks not to launch deposit mobilisation schemes envisaging award of prizes on the basis of lucky draws. Instances of some Urban Co-operative Banks formulating such schemes awarding fabulous prizes, like T.V. sets, refrigerators, ambassador cars, etc. had come to the notice of RBI. The concerned banks were advised to modify/terminate such schemes and to raise deposits in conformity with RBI guidelines.

Clubbing of Loans Sanctioned by Term Lending Institutions with Medium Term Loans

5112. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has received any request from co-operative banks to the effect that bridge loans sanctioned against firm commitments from term lending institutions should be clubbed only with the medium term-loans sanctioned under Credit Authorisation Scheme while ascertaining the availability of long term resources for further lending;

(b) if so, whether NABARD has since considered the request and decision has since been taken and if not, the reasons for delay; and

(c) the time by which a decision will be taken in regard thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development had received a representation from the Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank in August, 1983 requesting that the bridge loan sanctioned against firm commitment of term loan should not be clubbed with medium term loans sanctioned under the Credit Authorisation Scheme while ascertaining long term resources. This was examined and the Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank was advised in November, 1983 that its request cannot be acceded to.

Use of Energy Saving Technology in Aluminium Industry

5113. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether aluminium industry is considering use of energy saving technology to reduce its heavy power consumption;

(b) whether due to such heavy power consumption, Indian aluminium is costlier than abroad; and

(c) the steps Government have recommended for adoption by aluminium industry to reduce costs ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Production of aluminium in India is costlier mainly because of higher power tariff and partly on account of comparatively

higher consumption of power as well as costs of some other input materials.

(c) Government have urged the aluminium industry to reduce power consumption and increase efficiency.

Representation from Delhi Wooden Cabinet Manufacturers Association Delhi for exemption of excise duty

5114. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Wooden Cabinet Manufacturers Association, Delhi to exempt T. V. Cabinets (wooden/sunmica) from the central excise duty; and

(b) if so the details of the representation and when a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Association has sought exemption from excise duty in respect of T. V. cabinets (wooden/sunmica) on various grounds. The representation is under examination.

Production Cost of Coffee in Kerala

5115. DR. K. G. ADIYODI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the production of coffee per hectare in India Statewise and varieties planted;

(b) whether Kerala has the highest production cost per hectare for coffee;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to help the cultivators ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c). According to the last report of the Cost Accounts Branch, finalised in August, 1982, the cost of cultivation per hectare in respect of the three major coffee growing States was computed as under :

Cost of Cultivation in Rs. per Hectare

	Big/Medium Estates	Private Estates	Small Estates
(A) Arabica			
Karnataka	6347	6986	6661
Tamil Nadu	5604	4541	5004
Kerala	2202	—	—
(B) Robusta			
Karnataka	4118	5207	5211
Tamil Nadu	2999	—	—
Kerala	4049	4294	4663

The yields projected on the basis of samole survey were as under :—

(Yield in kgs./Hect.)

	Big/Medium Estates	Private Estates	Small Estates
(A) Arabica			
Karnataka	2267	1022	1002
Tamil Nadu	664	512	690
Kerala	659	—	—
(B) Robusta			
Karnataka	1283	1071	906
Tamil Nadu	674	—	—
Kerala	884	909	708

Action has been initiated for conducting a fresh cost study.

(d) Besides implementing schemes for the benefit of all the coffee growers, viz. project for soil testing/pest surveillance, seed multiplication, opening of coffee demonstration farms, strengthening of research/extension facilities, replanting/crop hypothecation/hire purchase loans, expansion subsidy etc., the Coffee Board has been implementing the following schemes specially for the benefit of small coffee growers :

(i) Intensive cultivation/extension/special purpose loans.

(ii) Replanting subsidy.

(iii) Interest subsidy.

The small growers schemes are of particular importance for Kerala which has the highest percentage area of land with small coffee growers.

Expansion of Banking Facilities to Backward Areas

5116. SHRI R. P. GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for the expansion of banking facilities to backward areas, particularly in the State of Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The branch licensing policy for the period April 1982—March 1985 did envisage priority for expansion of banking facility in relatively backward and under banked areas. The branch expansion policy for the Seventh Plan period is yet to be finalised.

[Translation]

Unsold Cotton Stocks with Cotton Corporation

5117. SHRI SATYANARAYAN PAWAR : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether large stocks of unsold cotton have been lying with the Cotton Corporation for a long time; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Central Public Sector Projects in Visakhapatnam

5118. SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the investments so far made in the

Central public sector projects in Visakhapatnam; and

(b) the profit/losses incurred by these for the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b).

It is presumed that the intention of the Hon'ble Member is to know the details of the Central public undertakings with their registered offices located at Visakhapatnam. The details of investments as on 31-3-1984 and the net profit or loss made by these undertakings for the past 6 years are as follows :

(Rs. in crores)

Name of the undertaking	Investment as on 31-3-84 (Equity + Loan)	Net profit(+)/loss(—)				
		83-84	82-83	81-82	80-81	79-80
1. Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd.	957.06	— Under construction —				
2. Bharat Heavy Plate and Vessels Ltd.	32.10	4.45	1.07	0.60	0.48	0.33
3. Hindustan Shipyard Ltd.	56.77	(—)5.28	(—)6.94	(—)5.98	(—)8.40	1.47
4. Dredging Corpn. of India Ltd.	54.42	4.60	0.38	5.35	0.19	(—)0.65

Number of Nationalised Banks in Rural Areas

5119. SHRI F. S. M. PAKEER MOHAMED : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of nationalised banks in the rural areas;

(b) the total number of non-nationalised banks in the rural areas;

(c) the reasons why Government are not evolving a policy of expanding to banking sector in the rural areas; and

(d) the credit policy of the Nationalised banks for the agricultural sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Available information as at the end of September 1984 is set out below :

Bank Group	No. of branches	Of which at rural centres
State Bank of India Group	9863	4938
Nationalised Banks	22828	10932
Regional Rural Banks	8779	8244
Private Sector Banks	4653	1815
	46123	25929

(c) In branch expansion policy the rural areas and unbanked/under banked pockets have been given preference for opening new branches of nationalised banks. As a result, the total number of rural branches in the post nationalised period has increased from 1832 in June 1969 to 25929 as at the end of September 1984. As proportion the rural branches accounted for 56.2% of the total number of branches in September 1984. In

June 1969, the proportion was only 22.2%. Over 60% of the incremental branch expansion during the above period has been at rural centres. The major burden of the branch expansion programme in rural areas has been borne by the Public Sector Banks and Regional Rural Banks.

(d) Banks have been advised to increase their lendings to the Agricultural Sector so that their direct advances to Agriculture including Allied activities reach a level of atleast 15% of the net banks credit by March 1985 and atleast 16% of the banks credit by March 1987.

Increase of Expenditure during Seventh Plan as a Result of Rise in Prices

5120. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state by what amount the expenditure related to the Seventh Five Year Plan will increase in 1985-86, as a result of the price hike ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : The Seventh Five Year Plan is still under formulation. The size of the 1985-86 Central Plan is Rs. 18500 crores and that of the Union Territories' Rs. 640 crores. The State Plans for 1985-86 have not yet been finalised. It is not possible to know, at this stage, the trend in prices during the course of 1985-86.

Concession given to Tea Industry in Budget

5121. SHRI DINESH SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the concession given to the tea industry in the budget would apply only to the tea gardens in the north; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir. The tax concession under the new section 33AB, proposed to be inserted in the Income-tax Act by clause 7 of the Finance Bill, 1985, is applicable to all companies whose business consists exclusively or almost exclusively of growing and manufacturing tea in India.

(b) Does not arise.

Excise duty evasion by Surat Process Houses

5122. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the large scale evasion of Central excise duty by the Surat Process Houses;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any inquiry into the large scale evasion of central excise duty by the Surat Process Houses;

(c) if so, the details of the modus operandi of the Process Houses in evading the central excise duty and the extent of annual loss to the ex-chequer on this account; and

(d) the action taken by Government against the Process Houses in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). Some cases of alleged avasion of central excise duty by Process Houses in Surat have been detected during the year 1984-85. The estimated revenue involved in these cases is around Rs. 104.38 lakhs. The modus operandi for evasion were suppression of production and clandestine removal of goods. Preventive checks by the Central Excise officers have been intensified.

Export of Castor Oil

5123. SHRI C. P. THAKUR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the net export of castor oil in the current financial year;

(b) how does our export of castor oil compare with that of Brazil; and

(c) the steps taken to increase the production of castor in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) According to provisional figures compiled, Castor oil export from India in 1984-85 was worth Rs. 125 crores.

(b) India and Brazil are the major exporters of Castor Oil. India's share is

estimated to be around two third of world trade at present.

(c) Castor crop has been included under the proposed Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Oilseeds Development Project during 1985-86.

States Implementation in Janata-Subsidy Cloth Scheme

5124. SHRI D. N. REDDY : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the name of the State which stands foremost in the implementation of Janta-Subsidy Cloth Scheme; and

(b) the other States which are implementing this scheme in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :

(a) In terms of production of janata cloth, the State of Uttar Pradesh stands foremost.

(b) The other States which are implementing this scheme are as follows :

Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tripura, Assam and Rajasthan and the Union Territory of Pondicherry.

Curb on Small Importers of Dry Fruits in New Export/Import Policy

5125. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the export/import policy announced on 12 April, 1985 has further imposed curbs on small importers as the minimum value for imports of dry fruits has been brought down from Rs. 200,000 to Rs. 5,000;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the established importers licences have been cut by 5 per cent;

(d) if so, the reasons and the details thereof;

(e) whether Government have received many representations from the small importers of dry fruits; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures being contemplated to save the small importers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (c). The entitlement for import of dry fruits (excluding cashew nuts and dates) has been changed from 25% of the c.i.f. value of best year's import, during any of the financial years from 1972-73 to the preceding year, subject to a minimum of Rs. 20,000 to 20% of the c.i.f. value of the best year's import subject to a minimum of Rs. 5,0000.

(b) and (d). To make all possible savings in imports by restricting import of non-essential consumer goods,

(e) and (f). Yes, Sir.

After the announcement of Import and Export Policy, 1985-86, representations have been received from traders and their Associations for increasing the minimum value of import licences from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 20,000. Government does not propose to enhance the minimum value of the import licence as the existing minimum itself will be higher than the entitlement of the traders as per the policy.

Per Capita Assistance given by Public Sector Bank

5126. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details regarding the amount of deposits in various branches of public sector banks during the period from February 1984 to February 1985; and

(b) the per capita assistance given by these banks till February, 1985, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Data on State-wise deposits, advances and per capita advances of public sector banks (S. B. I. Group + 20 nationalised banks) are available as at the end of March 1984 and are set out in the statement attached.

Statement

*State-wise Deposits and Advances of Public Sector Banks
(S. B. I. Group + 20 Nationalised Banks) as on March 1984*

State/Union Territory	Deposits (Rs. lakhs)	Advances (Rs. lakhs)	Per Capita Advances (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1. Haryana	105665	79204	619
2. Himachal Pradesh	36270	16455	392
3. Jammu and Kashmir	29133	11669	194
4. Punjab	312520	146408	877
5. Rajasthan	133655	94025	276
6. Chandigarh	41076	59738	1328
7. Delhi	517542	335383	5409
8. Assam	57583	28776	144
9. Maghalaya	9709	2240	172
10. Manipur	2254	1219	87
11. Nagaland	4407	2100	262
12. Tripura	5365	3133	1566
13. Arunachal Pradesh	4594	511	85
14. Mizoram	2098	410	82
15. Sikkim	2517	318	106
16. Bihar	255917	101975	146
17. Orissa	65270	54961	208
18. West Bengal	595763	337775	619
19. A. and N. Islands	2521	478	251
20. Madhya Pradesh	206721	120301	230
21. Uttar Pradesh	556312	279857	252

1	2	3	4
22. Gujarat	403841	212694	625
23. Maharashtra	984181	939332	1498
24. Goa, Daman and Diu	52848	17126	1556
25. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	360	289	289
26. Andhra Pradesh	328042	248941	466
27. Karnataka	270808	229457	620
28. Kerala	177486	122582	482
29. Tamil Nadu	329453	322135	666
30. Pandicherry	8446	5052	842
31. Lakshadweep	231	33	82
Total	5506688	3774577	552

*Based upon 1981 Census.

Note :—Totals may not add up due to rounding difference.

Production of Coffee in States

5127. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the coffee producing States in the country;

(b) the value of the coffee produced by those States during the last three years;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted to locate more areas which are suitable for coffee growing;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of assistance given to the coffee-growing States particularly to Orissa to increase the production of coffee during the last three years; and

(f) the other special steps being taken to increase the production of coffee in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A.

SANGMA) : (a) Coffee is mainly produced in Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

(b) The value of coffee produced by the major producing States during 1981-82 to 1983-84 seasons is as under :

(Rs. Lakhs)

State	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84 (Provisional)
Karnataka	15454.83	14256.45	12752.17
Kerala	4566.61	2099.00	1535.86
Tamil Nadu	2331.16	2022.76	2493.85
Andhra Pradesh	70.37	73.32	85.19

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. So far an area of 18,553 hectares has been covered under the survey in the North Eastern Region. A survey in Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and neighbouring States is likely to be conducted by the Board.

(e) Coffee Board is providing loans and subsidies to coffee growers. In Orissa, the Board has disbursed an amount of Rs. 1.75 lakhs as expansion subsidy from 1979-80 to 1984-85.

(f) Besides development loans and subsidies schemes, the Board is implementing schemes like seed multiplication units, opening of coffee demonstration farms, strengthening of research wing, mobile soil testing units etc. for increasing production of coffee in the country.

**Indian Silk Export Promotion Council
for change in Product Mix**

5128. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council has urged its members to change their product mix as to reduce their reliance on traditional items;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, at the first Annual General Meeting held on 29-11-84 urged its members for more sustained and organised efforts in exploiting fully the increasing rate of growth observed in recent years in export market for ready-made garments, made-up articles and mixed/blended silk goods.

(c) Government have encouraged Indian Silk Export Promotion Council to undertake activities such as sponsoring of market study teams abroad, participation in fairs and organising buyer-seller meet and Contact Promotion Programme to tap the export potential in this regard.

Review of functioning of Coal Mines

5129. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have conducted any review of the functioning of certain coal

mines after nationalisation in respect of the extraction and supply of coal;

(b) if so, the results thereof; and

(c) if not, whether any review is proposed to be conducted, if so, when ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :
(a) to (c). Coal production and despatch reviews are conducted periodically at the level of the Department of Coal, company level and the area level. In these reviews production and supplies of coal are analysed and discussed for taking corrective measures wherever necessary. A regular watch is kept on the progress of projects in hand.

**Location of Headquarters of G.S.I.
Circle for H.P.**

5130. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has decided to locate the headquarters of the G.S.I. Circle for Himachal Pradesh at Simla or at any other place in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the likely date by which the headquarters would be shifted to Himachal Pradesh;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the likely date by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :
(a) Yes Sir. There is a proposal to shift the H.P. Circle office of G.S.I. from Chandigarh to Himachal Pradesh.

(b) The State Government has been approached for allotment of land. As soon as land is made available and requisite buildings are constructed, the circle office would be shifted to Simla.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

**Acquisition of Land for Singrauli
Project**

5131. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of people who have lost their land/house etc. in the villages around Singrauli Projects;

(b) the number out of them who belong to tribal, Scheduled Caste and other backward classes;

(c) whether they have been provided with full compensation for the land acquired from them;

(d) whether they have been provided with jobs in the projects of Central Coalfields Ltd;

(e) if so, the number of people out of them provided with jobs;

(f) whether a representation dated 22 March, 1985 from Coalfield Labour Union (CITU), Hazaribagh has been received by him in this regard; and

(g) if so, the steps Government have taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (g). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Production shortfall in ECL and BCCL

5132. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state ;

(a) whether there have been shortfalls in production in the Eastern Coalfields Ltd. and the Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. during the past three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the major causes for shortfalls in production in ECL and BCCL during the period mentioned above;

(d) the performances of the Central Coalfields Ltd. and Western Coalfields Ltd. as compared to the performances of ECL and BCCL during the period mentioned above; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to cure the maladies of ECL and BCCL ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). Coal production in ECL and BCCL during the last three years was as under :

(In million tonnes)

Year	ECL		BCCL	
	Target	Actual Prod.	Target	Actual Prod.
1982-83	25.80	22.68	23.50	24.00
1983-84	25.00	22.86	24.50	21.63
1984-85	25.10	23.11	24.50	21.84
				(Provisional)

(c) The major causes for shortfall in production in ECL and BCCL were constraints such as power shortage, absenteeism, heavy rains, industrial relation problems, non-opening of mines in ECL due to the resistance by local youth demanding employ-

ment in excess of the norms for land losers.

(d) CCL and WCL have exceeded their annual targets during the last three years. Production in these two companies during the last three years was as under :

(in million tonnes)

Year	CCL		WCL	
	Target	Production	Target	Production
1982-83	32.70	33.02	33.30	34.28
1983-84	35.00	36.77	37.80	39.35
1984-85	37.50	39.02	43.15	46.05
				(Provisional)

(e) The following steps have been taken to remove the constraints and step up coal production :

- (i) An enquiry committee under the Chairmanship of Shri K. S. R. Chari, former Secretary, Department of Coal, has been appointed to examine *inter-alia* the present production capability of ECL and recommend measures for improvement in production, productivity, utilisation of man-power and machinery and management in general.
- (ii) Improved power supplies to coal mines.
- (iii) Controlling absenteeism by taking action under relevant provisions of the labour laws. This has resulted in reduction of absenteeism.
- (iv) Expediting acquisition of lands for mine construction purposes.
- (v) Provision of necessary infrastructural facilities for coal mining.
- (vi) Close monitoring of the performance of collieries at all levels in the company and in the Department of Coal.
- (vii) Improvement of law and order situation in the coalfields with the assistance of the State Governments.
- (viii) Opening of new mining projects and modernisation of existing mines.

Increase in Coal Prices

5133. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Coal India Limited has recommended increase in the prices of coal;
- (b) if so, the details of the recommendations;
- (c) the reasons why the Coal India Limited has recommended increase in coal prices; and
- (d) the contemplation of Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) to (d). Coal India Limited has indicated the anticipated costs of production for 1985-86 taking into account the increase in costs of inputs, additional dearness allowance, bonus etc. No decision has been taken by the Government.

Studies made for finding out alternative sources of energy to coal and atomic power

5134. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTHNAIK : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the studies made by Government for finding out alternative sources of energy to coal and atomic power; and

(b) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government for conservation of coal and avoid wastage in coal mines ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) a

(a) The Government is implementing comprehensive programme of R and D, Demonstration, Industrial Production and Utilisation relating to New and Renewable Sources of Energy. The alternative sources of energy include Solar Energy, Wind Energy, Biogas, Biomass, Tidal, Geothermal etc. Various renewable energy devices and systems such as solar cookers, solar water heaters, solar timber kilns, photovoltaic systems, biogas plants have been developed in the country and are being popularised through various measures. A few demonstration projects for electricity generation through wind farms are also being taken up. Studies have also indicated that a substantial amount of electrical generating capacity could be supported through biomass resources in energy plantations.

(b) The work already done and is being made in the area of conservation of coal and to avoid wastage in coal mines includes :

- (i) Recovery of reserves by new methods of mining such as large opencast mines and longwall technology etc.
- (ii) Control of fires in a number of coal seams.

- (iii) Introduction of modern methods of beneficiation to give better yield of washed coal.
- (iv) Amalgamation of smaller mines into larger units. Such reconstruction will release considerable amount of coal which would have been lost in the barriers.
- (v) Utilisation of washery rejects for power generation and for stowing in the underground mines.
- (vi) Increased use of sand/crushed stones for conservation and safety. This will also result in greater recovery of insitu coal from the underground mine.
- (vii) R and D projects have been taken up to economise coking coal consumption in steel plants.

[Translation]

Growth of Powerlooms Danger to Handloom Sector

5135. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the growth of powerlooms secretly is likely to pose a danger to the organised handloom sector in the long run;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps to check their growth; and

(c) if so, the details of the progress made in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The powers to detect unauthorised powerlooms and to proceed against persons responsible for operating unauthorised powerlooms are available with the State Governments under the Essential Commodities Act.

[English]

Promotion of SC/ST Sub-ordinate Staff to Clerical Cadre in New Delhi Branches of State Bank of India

5136. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the

Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether relaxation of two years in experience for promotion from subordinate staff to clerical cadre available to the subordinate staff belonging to SC/ST communities, has been abolished in the New Delhi local head office, branches and offices of State Bank of India; and

(b) If so, the reasons for withdrawing this concession ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). In terms of the existing Government guidelines, reservation for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes employees does not apply to a cadre to which direct recruitment is 66⅔% or more. State Bank of India has reported that direct recruitment to the clerical cadre in that bank is more than the aforesaid percentage. The reservation in promotion from subordinate cadre to the clerical cadre is, therefore, not applicable to this cadre. As there is no reservation the question of allowing relaxation does not arise.

Production of Tobacco and its Prices

5137. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of tobacco produced in each State during 1984-85;

(b) the guidelines followed in fixing minimum export prices for tobacco;

(c) the guidelines followed in fixing minimum support prices for tobacco to be purchased from tobacco growers; and

(d) the details of minimum export prices for different grades of tobacco and the details of minimum support prices for corresponding grades of tobacco for the current season ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) The final estimate of production of tobacco statewide during 1984-85 is not yet available. The break-up of production of tobacco during 1983-84 in the major states is as follows :—

	Quantity in '000 tonnes
Andhra Pradesh	191.9
Gujarat	186.9
Karnataka	28.8
Uttar Pradesh	19.7
West Bengal	15.5
Other States/Union Territories	54.3
All India	497.1

(b) Minimum Export Price (MEP) is fixed *inter-alia* for ensuring a fair and remunerative return to the growers consistent with the demand and supply both domestic and international for tobacco, each year.

(c) and (d). Minimum Support Price (MSP) is fixed for Virginia Tobacco only on the basis of the decisions of the Government on the recommendations made by the Commission for Agricultural costs and prices for F₂ grade and L₂ grade Tobacco grown in black soils and light soils respectively. The MSP for L₂ grade has been fixed at Rs. 9.75 per kgm. and for L₂ grade at Rs. 12.00 per kgm. during the current season. The MSP for all other grades are derived with reference to these prices by adopting normal market price differentials.

The MEP for different Agmark grades of Flue Cured Virginia Tobacco, Sun Cured Virginia tobacco, Sun cured 'Natu' (Country) and Sun Cured Jutty Tobacco for the current season has been announced vide Ministry of Commerce Export Trade Central Public Notice No. 3-ETC (PN)/85, dated 1-2-1985.

The MEPs are fixed for Agmark grades which are based on colour and quality. On the other hand, MSP is fixed on the basis of Farm grades for black soil tobacco and plant position grades for light soil tobacco.

Amount due from State Electricity Boards to Public Sector Coal Companies

5139. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY :
SHRI HARISH RAWAT :

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the State Electricity Board-wise current outstanding dues to public sector Coal Companies on account of coal supplies made to the thermal stations; and

(b) the steps being taken to collect these outstanding dues from the State Electricity Boards ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) State Electricity and Power House-wise outstanding dues of subsidiaries of Coal India Ltd., as on 28-2-1985, are as under :

(Figures in lakh Rupees)

Consumers	ECL	CCL	WCL	BCCL	CIL Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
BSEB	352	3772	—	—	4124
UPSEB	159	1547	59	49	1914
OSEB	—	1185	—	—	1185
PSEB	—	785	150	686	1621
TNEB	555	98	193	—	846
HSEB	—	1198	25	462	1685
RSEB	—	66	43	—	105
MSEB	—	—	4147	—	4177

1	2	3	4	5	6
MPEB	—	—	5491	—	5491
GEB	—	66	879	—	945
WBSEB	893	(—)10	—	151	1034
APEE	—	—	—	—	—
Total EBs	1959	8708	11017	1448	23132
DPL	1174	—	—	250	1424
DVC	358	2919	—	529	3806
DESU	—	844	—	470	1314
BTPS	—	1254	—	2496	3750
CESC	94	—	—	—	94
NTPC	—	418	287	—	705
AEC	—	—	817	—	817
Others	122	—	—	—	122
Total	1748	5435	1104	3745	12032
Grand total	3707	14143	12121	5193	35164

State Electricity Boards and Power House-wise dues to Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd. as on 31-1-1985 are as under :—

	(Rupees in lakhs)
APSEB	601
TNEB	237
MSEB	115
NTPC	120

(b) Various steps are being taken to recover arrears. These include constant follow up by coal companies, resolution of disputes regarding deductions by mutual discussions, signing of agreements between coal companies and power houses and requesting the Department of Power and State Governments to use their good offices in the recovery of outstanding dues. In difficult cases, discontinuation of coal supplies is also resorted to.

[Translation]

Capacity Utilisation of Steel Plants

5140. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA :

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether capacity utilisation of Bhilai, Durgapur, Rourkela, Bokaro and Burnpur Steel plants had been lower in 1983-84 as compared to previous year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the capacity utilisation of each of the above plants during 1982-83 and 1983-84; and

(d) the action taken during the year 1984-85 to improve the working and the results achieved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (d). The capacity utilisation of Saleable Steel of the SAIL steel plants (including IISCO) during 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 is given below :

Plant	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
	(%age of capacity utilisation)		
Bhilai Steel Plant	94	80	90
Durgapur Steel Plant	66	49	50
Rourkela Steel Plant	81	70	83
Bokaro Steel Ltd.	78	65	74
Indian Iron and Steel Ltd.	63	55	48

At the beginning of 1983-84, SAIL had large stocks of steel and there was recession in the market. As such, steel production was regulated during the first 7 to 8 months of 1983-84 in order to reduce the high inventories.

The capacity utilisation improved in 1984-85 when production was 11% higher than 1983-84. The on-going measures taken to improve the performance include—

- Systematic planned and capital repairs of existing aged steel plants and equipment;
- Intensification of technological regimes;
- Further improvement in the techno-economic indices;
- Improvement in the yield of by-products, better recovery of waste and secondary arisings;
- Vigorous follow up of making the inputs of the right quality and in quantity available to the plants;
- Optimisation of power generation from existing captive facilities as well as setting up additional captive units at SAIL plants to reduce dependence on supply of power from public utilities;
- Aggressive marketing strategy to cater to the needs of the economy and to keep the inventories low;
- Strict control on inventories of raw materials and stores and spares. Concerted efforts to achieve the targets for reduction of inventories to be made;

—Continuous control on cost through frequent monitoring and remedial action;

—Review of performance on a continuous basis under the three tier system of monitoring *i.e.* at the plant level, Corporate office level and the Government;

—Close association of R and D scientists to effect economies and to assist in the development of products in short supply and with improved quality. As a result SAIL-MA, LPG, EDD, high strength resistance rails etc. have been developed using the existing plant facilities.

Decreases against Department of Supply

5141. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the value of decrees given against the Department of Supply and the amount paid by the Department against these decrees during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the amount spent by Government on litigation each year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Linking of Areas in Sindhudurg with Kolhapur for Income-Tax Purposes

5142. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether for the last five years, areas under taluks of Deogadh, Vengurla and Malwan in Sindhurg District (former Ratnagiri District) in Maharashtra were linked up with the office at Ratnagiri for income tax purposes;

(b) if so, whether there is a suggestion to link up these areas with Kolhapur;

(c) if so, whether there is a powerful public opinion in favour of linking up these areas with Kolhapur; and

(d) whether Government propose that in public interest these areas will continue to be linked up with Kolhapur ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The Taluks of Deogadh, Vengurla and Malwan in the Sindhurg District of Maharashtra were linked up with the Income-tax Office at Ratnagiri in the year 1981. However, the jurisdiction over these Taluks has been reorganised and brought within the jurisdiction of Income-tax Officer, 'H' Ward, Kolhapur by the Commissioner of Income-tax, Kolhapur vide his order dated 2nd April, 1985.

(c) and (d). Representations, both for and against, have been received which are being considered.

Ratnagiri District Income Tax Office and its Jurisdiction

5142-A. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in Ratnagiri District independent income tax office was established in 1950;

(b) the area under the jurisdiction of that office then;

(c) whether in 1960-61 the six tehsils of Southern part of Ratnagiri were removed from the jurisdiction of Ratnagiri Income Tax Office and were brought under the jurisdiction of Income Tax Office, H Ward, Kolhapur; and

(d) whether on representation made by

the assesseees three Tehsils of Vengurla, Malwan and Deogadh were brought back under the jurisdiction of Ratnagiri, Income Tax Office ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). The Income-tax Office at Ratnagiri has been functioning since 1950. At that time, all the 15 taluqs of the District Ratnagiri were linked with this office. In the year 1961, six taluqs of Deogadh, Malwan, Vengurla, Kanakawali, Kudal and Sawantwadi were brought under the jurisdiction of Income-tax Office, Kolhapur. In the year 1981, the three Coastal taluqs of Deogadh, Malwan and Vengurla were transferred from Income-tax Office, Kolhapur to Income-tax Office, Ratnagiri. However, a change in this jurisdiction has been made by the Commissioner of Income-tax, Kolhapur, vide his order dated the 2nd April, 1985 according to which, the jurisdiction over these three taluqs has not been brought under Income-tax Officer, 'H' Ward, Kolhapur.

Approval to M/s. C.J. International Hotels Ltd. for Securing A Euro-Dollar Loan

5143. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether M/s. C. J. International Hotels Limited was given approval for securing a Euro-Dollar Loan equivalent to US \$ 12.5 millions in connection with the setting up of their hotel project in India;

(b) whether any drawals have taken place during the years since the approval was given;

(c) whether these drawals were made against the approval of certain formalities prescribed by the guaranteeing banks; and

(d) if not, the reasons why a loan of Rs. 11 crores was permitted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d). According to information furnished by the Lead Bank of the consortium, documents for the Euro-dollar loan were executed on 22nd March, 1985. The creation of a contributory English

mortgage was a condition precedent to the draw-down of the main Euro-dollar loan. However, since the availability period of the loan was to expire on 31st March, 1985 and insufficient time was left for creation of contributory English mortgage before issuing notice of draw-down, the company was permitted by consortium banks to make partial draw-down for adjustment of two Euro-dollar bridging loans along with the interest thereon. This partial draw-down has since been made and bridge loans adjusted along with interest. However, the security available for bridge loans continues to be available to the consortium of banks. The Company has been permitted to create the mortgage deed latest by 30th June, 1985.

Percentage of Loans and Grants to States

5144. PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what percentage of money is allotted to States as loan and what percentage as grants; and

(b) whether the ratio has been maintained in respect of all States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Central assistance to State Plans is given in the form of 90% grant and 10% loan in respect of Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura. In cases of all other States, Central assistance is provided in the form of 30% grant and 70% loan.

Loan Advanced to Agriculturists by NABARD

5145. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the aims and objects of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Develop-

ment; and

(b) the total increase in the amount of loans advanced by NABARD to agriculturists and institutions dealing with agriculture since its establishment till December, 1984 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has been established for providing credit for the promotion of agriculture, small-scale industries, cottage and village industries, handicrafts and other rural crafts and other allied economic activities in rural areas.

(b) Commitments for refinance assistance, under schematic lending, in respect of new schemes approved during 1983-84 (July-June) increased to Rs. 1170 crores as against Rs. 1019 crores during the previous year. Disbursal of refinance was of the order of Rs. 892 crores, registering an increase of 27 per cent over the previous year. The short-term credit limits sanctioned in 1983-84 to State Co-operative Banks for crop loans aggregated Rs. 1245 crores which was about Rs. 125 crores more than that for 1982-83.

Export Handled by Export Promotion Councils

5146. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Export Promotion Councils constituted by Government and the dates of their constitution;

(b) the products handled for export by these Councils; and

(c) the exports promoted in terms of rupees by these Councils during 1983-84 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c). A Statement is attached.

Statement

Name of the Export Promotion Council	Date/year of establishment	Name of the products handled for exports	Export promoted during 1983-84 (Rs. in crores)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
1. Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council, Bombay	1966	Gem and Jewellery items	1324.45	
2. Council for Leather Exports, Madras	1984	Leather and leather products	436.04	Set up in 1984 by merging the two earstwhile leather councils formed in 1956 and 1963
3. Sports Goods Export Promotion Council, New Delhi	1958	Sports Goods	28.84	
4. Basic Chemicals, Pharma- ceuticals and Cosmetics Export Promotion Council, Bombay	1963	Drugs, Pharmaceuticals, Fine Chemicals, Dyes, Intermediates, Organic and inorganic chemicals, Soaps Detergents, Cosmetics and toiletries Aggar-battis, essential oils, crude dugs etc.	411.88 (Est.)	

1	2	3	4	5
5. Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council, Calcutta	1958	Chemicals and Allied products including glass ceramics, asbestos, paper, paints, Safety matches, ink etc.	235.50	(Est.)
6. Plastics and Linoleums Export Promotion Council, Bombay	1955	Plastics goods including plastic bangles, PVC shoes, spectacle frames, linoleum, Polyline jute goods etc.	51.36	(Est.)
7. Processed Foods Export Promotion Council, New Delhi	1962	Processed foods, Fresh fruits and vegetables, Meat and meat products and misc. food products.	203.26	
8. Shellac Export Promotion Council, Cochin	1957	Shellac seedlac and other kinds of lac	13.61	
9. Spices Export Promotion Council, Cochin	1960	All spices other than Cardamoms	106.19	
10. Cashew Export promotion Council, Cochin	1955	Cashew Kernals and Cashewnut shell liquid	149.47	

1	2	3	4	5
11. Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Bombay	1983	Natural silk fabrics garments, madeups and machine made carpets	109.16	During 1983-84 Export promotion of Silk items were handled by Central Silk Board on behalf of Indian Silk Export Promotions Council which was declared as registering authority w.e.f. 1-4-1984.
12. Carpets Export promotion Council, NOIDA, Distt. Ghaziabad	1982	Hand-knotted woollen carpets Silks Carpets, Nandals druggets and Wollen darries	147.70 (prov.)	
13. Overseas Constnuction Council of India, Bombay	1984	To handle overseas construction and Civil Engineering projects	—	The Council has been formed in March, 1984
14. Apparel Export promotion Council, New Delhi	1978	Readymade garments of all fibres (excluding leather, Jute and Hemp) and Hosiery of all fibres exluding wollen hosiery)	734.62	

1	2	3	4	5
15. Silk and Rayon Textile Export Promotion Council, Bombay	1954	Rayon and Synthetic Textiles	57.02	
16. Handloom Export promotion Council, Madras	1965	Handloom Products	309.30	
17. Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council, Bombay	1954	Cotton Textiles	318.84	
18. Engineering Export Promotion Council, Calcutta	1955	Engineering goods	1170.00 (Estimated)	
19. Wool and Woollen Export Promotion Council, New Delhi	1965	Woolen Fabrics, Knitwear, Shawls, Blankets etc.	67.15	

Scheme Prepared by Merchant Banking Division of S. B. I. for Five Star Hotels

5147. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Merchant Banking Division of the State Bank of India has prepared a scheme for five star hotels;

(b) the number of hotels coming under the scheme;

(c) whether Leela Penta Hotel is one among them; and

(d) the salient features of this scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). The Merchant Banking Division of the State Bank of India has not prepared any scheme for five star hotels.

In terms of the provisions of Section 44 of the State Bank of India Act, 1955 information relating to individual constituents of the bank can not be disclosed.

Proposal for Export of Goods to Iran

5149. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from the Federation of Indian Exports Organisation for exporting goods to Iran;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Opening of New Branches of Nationalised Banks in Maharashtra

5150. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under

consideration of Government to open new branches of nationalised banks in Maharashtra during the Seventh Plan period;

(b) if so, the locations where the branches are likely to be opened; and

(c) the extent to which the rural people of the villages in the State will be benefited ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The branch licensing policy for the Seventh Five Year Plan Period is being finalised. Opening of new branches of nationalised banks in Maharashtra during this period will be considered in the light of the above policy. It is not possible to indicate at this stage the locations where branches of nationalised banks are likely to be opened as well as the extent to which the people of the villages in the State will be benefited, as a result of new branches.

Opening of Urban Cooperative Banks in Amravati and Nagpur

5151. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under the consideration of Government to open urban cooperative banks in the Amravati and Nagpur districts of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, whether any study has been made by the Reserve Bank of India in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). The Reserve Bank of India has informed that at present two proposals for setting up urban cooperative banks in Nagpur and Amravati districts are under consideration. The registration of following two banks as primary urban banks by the State Cooperation Department has been approved by the RBI :

Name	Date of clearance by RBI
1. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Co-op. Bank Ltd., Nagpur	12-12-83
2. Samata Urban Co-op. Bank Ltd., Nagpur	5-12-84

The RBI has further informed that during last one year following two banks have been licensed by them in the districts of Amravati and Nagpur :

Name	Date of Licence
1. Sadhana Sahakari Bank Ltd., Nagpur	5-7-84
2. Anjangaon Surji Nagri Sahakari Bank Ltd., Anjangaon Surji, Distt. Amravati	8-2-85

The RBI has got a joint feasibility study done of the proposal relating to Peoples Urban Co-operative Bank, Nagpur. The study report is under consideration of RBI. No final decision has yet been taken in the matter.

Raids on Builders at Bombay by I.T. Department

5152. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether during the last week of March, 1985 the Bombay Income Tax Department has raided at the business and residence premises of two builders at Bombay;

(b) if so, whether a large number of incriminating documents have been seized during the raids;

(c) if so, full details thereof; and

(d) what further steps have been contemplated by Government in this regard to book the culprits ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Setting up of Regional Rural Banks in Haryana

5153. SHRI RAM PRAKASH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Regional Rural Banks set up by the Central Government in Haryana in consultation with the Nationalised Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development;

(b) whether Government of Haryana have contributed their share of 15 per cent of the total paid up capital;

(c) whether Union Government have issued necessary orders notifying the banks of their location, headquarters and area of operation, etc. and if not, the reasons for such an inordinate delay; and

(d) the average gap between receipt of contribution from the State and setting up of the banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI) : (a) At present there are four Regional Rural Banks in Haryana which have been set up in terms of section 3(1) of the Regional Rural Banks Act 1976 (21 of 1976).

(b) In terms of section 6(5) of the above mentioned Act, every State Government contributes 15 per cent of the issued share capital of a Regional Rural Bank. In respect of the Regional Rural Banks set up in Haryana so far, the State Government have subscribed their share capital in the equity of the Regional Rural Banks.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The existing reporting system does not yield information regarding the dates of receipt of contributions by the regional rural banks from the State Government. Generally, such contributions are released to the concerned Regional Rural Bank soon after the bank comes into existence.

Assistance to Beneficiaries under I.R.D.P. by Nationalised Banks in Bhadrak (Orissa)

5154. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branches of nationalised banks set up in Bhadrak District in Orissa for providing assistances under the Integrated Rural Development Programme; and

(b) the number of beneficiaries who have received assistance from the various banks in that district in Orissa during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) All branches of the nationalised banks operating in District are expected to provide assistance to identified rural poor families under the Integrated Rural Development Programme. Separate branches have not been set up for providing credit only to the beneficiaries of IRDP.

(b) Present data reporting system does not yield District-wise information. In Orissa State 6.19 lakh beneficiaries have received assistance under the Programme during the last three years (till February, 1985).

Guarantee in Respect of Small Loans

5155. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India had issued a circular to the commercial banks stating that guarantee for the small loans not exceeding rupees 5,000 should not be insisted upon;

(b) whether as a result of this circular the bank managers are invariably asking for the guarantee from small poor loanees and thereby subverting the general policy of Government; and

(c) whether Government propose to direct the Reserve Bank of India to change the circular so that no guarantees are asked for in the case of small loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Banks have been instructed by the Reserve Bank of India that no additional security is to be obtained in respect of loans upto Rs. 5,000 (other than hypothecation of the asset acquired with the help of the loan). It has also been emphasised that it is absolutely necessary that the banks should ensure that the branches do not ask for security in the case of small loans,

Banking Services in Rajasthan

5156. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the banking services in Rajasthan particularly of the lead banks are reported to be very poor;

(b) if so, the details of complaints received in this regard; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to improve the functioning of the banks there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Based on the performance under District Credit Plans and Annual Action Plans, the services rendered by the Lead Banks in Rajasthan cannot be considered as poor.

(b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that no specific complaints have been received regarding the performance of the Lead Banks in the State.

(c) Does not arise.

Shortage of Cold Rolled Steel Sections

5157. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the capacity of units for making cold rolled steel sections in private sector is not being fully utilised due to non-availability of proper quality of steel in required quantities;

(b) whether in the absence of cold rolled steel sections, the construction industry is using hot rolled sections, which is leading to extra expenditure due to higher weight and lower strength; and

(c) if so, the details regarding the steps proposed to be taken by Government to rectify the position?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (c). The requirements of hot rolled coils and cold rolled coils by the units manufacturing cold rolled steel sections in the private sector is partly met by domestic production. These units are allowed to meet balance requirements through imports under the provisions of Import Policy.

(b) The construction sector normally uses hot rolled sections. Use of cold rolled sections depends upon its economy in certain uses.

Vijayanagar Steel Plant in Karnataka

5158. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka Chief Minister has urged the Union Government to end the uncertainty over the Vijayanagar Steel Plant and has suggested that if the steel project is found to be uneconomical owing to cost escalation, the Union Government should take up a matching project to meet the aspirations of the people in that area;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have considered the view of the Chief Minister in this regard;

(c) if so, whether any alternative project is likely to be considered; and

(d) if not, the main reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) (a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Government have decided in principle to set up a Steel Plant at Vijayanagar in Karnataka State. This commitment of the Government remains unaltered. As such the question of considering any alternative project does not arise.

Watch on Certain Indian Banks Based in London by Bank of England

5159. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether following the Esal Group affairs, the Bank of England has started keeping a discreet watch on certain Indian banks based in London and reminding them again discreetly that their lending rate should not exceed 10 per cent of the paid-up capital;

(b) if so, whether the Indian banks had been officially told that how those should or should not operate;

(c) whether it is also a fact that it has pointed out that the highest amount was loaned by the Punjab National Bank to the

Esal group of companies;

(d) if so, whether Government have received the full report of the enquiry made by the U.K. Government and whether any directive was issued to the Indian banks in U. K.; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (e). The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it has no information that the Bank of England has been keeping watch over Indian banks in London in the manner stated in the Question. However, Bank of England is reported to have issued guidelines to all banks operating in the United Kingdom that loans to individual customers or a group of customers should not normally exceed 10% of the Bank's Capital base.

Some officials of the London branches of 3 Indian banks had granted advances to the Esal Group companies far in excess of the sanctioned limits and without obtaining the approval of their Head Offices.

Government has taken a serious view of the matter. The Banks have initiated action against officers involved in the irregularities and are also taking steps to recover their dues. The Reserve Bank of India has advised the banks to strengthen their monitoring and control systems for better supervision of operations of their overseas branches. Persons posted abroad have been instructed not to exceed their delegated powers under any circumstances without obtaining prior sanction of the Chairman of the Banks or a Committee set by the Chairman for this purpose. It has been made clear that any failure to comply with these instructions would be dealt with severely and firmly. The banks have also been asked by the RBI to issue suitable instructions to their branches regarding (a) proper pre-participation appraisal in respect of syndicated loans and placements in the inter-bank markets abroad; and (b) offering forward exchange facilities to customers without real demand and that where such facilities are granted in exceptional cases, 100% security over for the expected amount of financial liability under the contract should be obtained.

Export of Indian Tea to European Countries

5160. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that because of their present policies in regard to the tea export, European, especially UK importers, were turning away from Indian tea;

(b) if so, whether some of the Indian firms in U. K. are exporting tea from USSR;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government have been urged to review the tea policy;

(d) if so, whether Government have considered the suggestions;

(e) the steps being taken to improve the tea exports; and

(f) whether the Indian tea which was considered best in the World has been reduced to number four ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) In recent years, there has been a change in the direction of exports of tea from India, from the traditional markets of U.K. and West Europe to the Countries in East Europe in West Asia and North African region. There has, however not been any decline in exports of tea from India.

(b) Government has no information in this regard.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

(e) The Tea Marketing Plan 1985 has been framed with the objective of maximising foreign exchange earnings from tea export, by carefully regulating and monitoring exports.

(f) No, Sir.

Cheating of Banks and Private Financial Institution in Tamil Nadu

5161. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether at least ten nationalised and private banks and some private financial institutions in Tamil Nadu had been cheated

of over Rupees one crore in the past one year by a gang of tricksters posing themselves as transport operators;

(b) if so, the names of the banks that were cheated and the total amount that the banks had suffered;

(c) whether any enquiry was conducted;

(d) if so, whether the cheats were able to cheat the banks because of collusion with some employees of banks; and

(e) if so, the action taken against those held responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The Reserve Bank of India has reported that during the years 1980-84, 13 public sector banks and one private sector bank viz. Bank of Baroda, Punjab National Bank, Vijaya Bank, United Commercial Bank, Union Bank of India, Indian Overseas Bank, Indian Bank, Corporation Bank, Dena Bank, Central Bank of India, Canara Bank, State Bank of Mysore, State Bank of India and Dhana-lakshmi Bank had granted loans in 56 accounts aggregating Rs. 76.88 lakhs for purchase of 41 second hand motor vehicles and machinery to set up small scale units to a trickster and his associates without proper appraisal and without observing the usual formalities and verification of the end use of funds. The accounts have become sticky.

(c) The Central Bureau of Investigation has registered 9 cases under Section 120(b) r/w Section 420 IPC, Section 420, 467, 468 and 417 IPC against Shri Robin Mayne and others for investigation.

(d) and (e). Collusion of bank employees is suspected. Action against bank employees will depend upon their involvement, if any, in the basis of the investigation report of the C.B.I.

Setting up of A Regional Office of SBI at Agartala (Tripura)

5162. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branches of State Bank of India presently operating in Tripura;

(b) whether the Union Government have any proposal to set up a regional office at Agartala the State capital of Tripura;

(c) if so, when it will be set up; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The State Bank of India (SBI) has reported that as on 31-3-1985, 22 branches of the bank were functioning in the State of Tripura.

(b) to (d). According to SBI, their branches in Tripura are looked after by a Regional Manager with adequate powers to meet the needs of the area. A regional office is set up to control 150-200 branches and setting up a separate regional office at Agartala to look after the 22 branches in Tripura is not justified as per SBI norms.

Guidelines Regarding Grant of Loans to Weaker Sections

5163. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Department of Banking had issued any guidelines to the Banks for sanctioning of loans to the weaker sections of the society; and

(b) if so, the details of the guidelines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India have issued guidelines to all Scheduled Commercial Banks on 7th February, 1983 about the identification of beneficiaries of the 20-Point Programme belonging to the weaker sections of the community in various priority sectors and advised them to endeavour to increase the flow of credit to weaker sections so that by March 1985 these sections account for 25 per cent of the Priority Sector credit or 10 per cent of the aggregate credit of these banks.

Government had also asked the banks to accelerate the tempo of credit deployment to weaker sections of the community.

Weaker section comprise of :

1. Small and marginal farmers;
2. Landless labourers;
3. Tenant farmers/share croppers;
4. Artisans, village and cottage industries;

5. I.R.D.P. beneficiaries;

6. Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes; and

7. D.R.I. Scheme beneficiaries;

According to provisionsal data of RBI available for December 1984, the public sector banks had outstanding priority sector advances of Rs. 17158 crores involving 215 lakhs borrowal accounts. Weaker sections accounted for Rs. 3704 crores—21.6 per cent or the total, involving 151 lakhs borrowal accounts.

Raising of Income Tax Standard Deduction

5164. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation for raising the Income Tax standard deduction;

(b) whether there is any suggestion to Government to grant standard deduction to the salaried class at the rate of 25 per cent on the entire salary income without any monetary ceiling limit as at present; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The question of raising the quantum of standard deduction was considered by the Government as a part of the budgetary exercises this year, but it was decided not to make any modification in the existing provisions.

Opening of New Branches of L.I.C. in Rural and Backward Areas of Orissa

5165. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the branches opened in orissa by Life Insurance Corporation are adequate;

(b) if so, the district-wise branches opened so far indicating the name of the place where those are located;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted to know the demands and requirements of the general public particularly in tribal and backward areas of that State for further expansions of the LIC branches; and

(d) if so, the areas identified and decision

taken, if any, for opening new branches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The LIC has at present 26 branch offices at the following places (district-wise) in Orissa :

District	Branch Office
1. Cuttack	1-3. Cuttack
	4. Jagatsinghpur
	5. Kendrapara
	6. Jaipur
2. Dhenkanal	7. Dhenkanal
3. Puri	8. Bhubaneswar
	9. Puri
	10. Nayagarh
	11. Khurda
4. Sundergarh	12. Rourkela
	13. Uditnagar
5. Phulbani	14. Phulbani
6. Ganjam	15. Berhampur
7. Koraput	16. Jeypore
	17. Rayagada
8. Sambalpur	18. Sambalpur
	19. Bargarh
	20. Jharsuguda
9. Baleshwar	21. Baleshwar
	22. Bhadrak
10. Kendujhar	23. Kendujhar
11. Mayurbhanj	24. Baripada
12. Kalahandi	25. Bhavanipatna
13. Balangir	26. Balangir

(c) and (d). The Officer in charge of Cuttack Divisional Office of the LIC has assessed the needs for further branch expansion.

His proposals for Development Plans, 1985-86, would be considered on merits at the appropriate time.

[Translation]

Opening of N.T.C. Showrooms in Development Block Headquarters in Hill Districts of Uttar Pradesh

5167. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Textiles Corporation propose to open showrooms in the development block headquarters of hill districts of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the time by which the showrooms will be opened in all the development block headquarters of districts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). National Textile Corporation (Uttar Pradesh) Ltd., Kanpur will be opening two showrooms, one in Pithoragarh and another in Almora, in the hill districts of Uttar Pradesh. These two showrooms are being furnished and are likely to commence business by the end of May, 1985. Further opening of showrooms will be considered in the hill areas only after assessing demand and reviewing the performance of the above two showrooms. However, there is no proposal to open showrooms in all the development blocks of hill districts of Uttar Pradesh.

Delay in Starting Construction Work of Bharat Refractories Limited, Devalthal

5168. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) when the Bharat Refractories Limited, Devalthal was inaugurated;

(b) the number of times its Chairman has inspected the mining work and visited the factory site since its inauguration;

(c) whether there has been inordinate delay in starting the construction of the project;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to speed up the work of this project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Work on Pithoragarh Magnesite Project of Bharat Refractories Limited was inaugurated at site on 31st October, 1982.

(b) The Chairman-cum-Managing Director of Bharat Refractories Limited (BRL) was present at the site of the Pithoragarh project at the time of its inauguration. He has not visited the site thereafter; he keeps himself informed about the progress of the project through the Project Manager who is posted at site.

(c) and (d). There has been delay in starting the construction of the project. The main reasons are as follows :

On the advice of MECON, the consultants of Bharat Refractories Limited, it was initially decided to allot the work of setting up the Rotary Kiln Complex on a turn-key basis. Tenders were accordingly invited. Only one firm responded to the tender. Their rates were abnormally high and they were not prepared to reduce their rates. BRL then decided to float separate tenders for specific packages of work, such as rotary kiln, ancillary equipment, civil work, township, etc. This took time and resulted in delay.

BRL's application for the transfer of Government land for the plant and township is pending clearance by the Government of Uttar Pradesh. Various formalities to be complied with under the forest Conservation Act, 1980, have also contributed to delay in the transfer of Government land.

(e) Of late there has been some slowing down of the project due to change in demand for dead burnt magnesite and its availability in the country.

Existing Scheme for Attractive Investments in LIC

5169. SHRI MADAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that various erstwhile attractive schemes meant for attracting investment in Life Insurance Corporation have become very old and unattractive in the context of changed times; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to make them attractive ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. The Life Insurance Corporation of India have been keeping pace with the changing needs by continuously reviewing their existing plans and devising new plans to suit the requirements of the changing times. They have modified the terms and conditions of the existing plans to make them more attractive and acceptable. New insurance plans like Money Back Plan, Progressive Protection Policy, Children's Anticipated Policy, Jana Raksha Policy, etc., have also been evolved taking into account the changes in socio-economic conditions and consequent shift in consumer preference.

Availability of Yarn to Weavers in Barabanki District of U. P.

5170. **SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT :** Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is one spinning mill and are retail shop in Barabanki district in Uttar Pradesh for providing yarn to weavers;

(b) if so, the reasons for which yarn is not being made available to weavers and whether working of spinning mill and retail shop is not satisfactory; and

(c) if so, the action being taken by Government in this regard and the measures taken to make yarn available to weavers and the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, one Unit of U. P. State Spinning Mills Company (No. 1) Ltd., is located at Barabanki district. The Mill has opened a retail outlet in its premises in order to facilitate the supply of yarn to the weavers at the mill-gate.

(b) No complaint has been brought to the notice of the Central Government regarding the working of the Spinning mill and its retail shop.

(c) Does not arise.

Rise in Price of Staple Yarn in U. P.

5171. **SHRI KAMLA PRASAD**

RAWAT : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of weavers in the country and the number of weavers in district Barabanki in U. P. out of them;

(b) whether price of staple yarn has gone up recently by Rs. 30 per bundle;

(c) if so, the reasons for increasing the prices thereof;

(d) whether keeping in view the financial difficulty of weavers, Government propose to reduce the prices of staple yarn per bundle which has been increased recently;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) if so, by what time ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) There are approximately one crore weavers in the country and the estimated number of weavers in Barabanki district of Uttar Pradesh is about 57,000.

(b) There has been some increase in the prices of staple yarn and according to information received from Coimbatore market, the prices for 2/44s have gone up by about Rs. 20 per bundle of 5 kgs., between December, 1984 and mid-April, 1985.

(c) to (f). The increase in the price of staple yarn may be attributable to a number of factors including the cost of inputs. There is no statutory price control on staple fibre spun yarn produced in the country. These are also on OGL for imports.

Fees charged for Appu-ghar and other Pavilions at Pragati Maidan

5172. **SHRI R. M. BHOYE :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether tickets in the Pragati Maidan are not sold at one point but have to be purchased from different pavilions or separately for Appu-ghar, train and swings;

(b) if so, the rates of tickets in each case; and

(c) whether Government propose to make the entry free for children for all these

programmes so that they may be able to enjoy these programmes, cultural tableaux/shows in the trade fair alongwith their parents/guardians ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) The entry tickets to Pragati Maidan are issued at all the four gates and tickets for Shakuntalam and Manzar Theatre are issued at Gate No. 2 and can be procured at the time of entry from this Gate. The joy train ticket and tickets for fun rides in Appu Ghar are issued at the Railway Station in Pragati Maidan and locations of individual rides in Appu Ghar respectively.

Entry to Appu Ghar is from Gate No. 4 as well as from Pragati Maidan.

There is no separate entry ticket for visit to any of the other pavilions or cultural programmes.

(b) The rates of tickets are as follows :

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| (i) Entry ticket to Pragati Maidan | Re. 1/- adult
Rs. 0.50 child |
| (ii) Tickets for Shakuntlam Theatre | Rs. 3/- and
Rs. 2/- |
| (iii) Tickets for Manzar Theatre | Rs. 2/- |
| (iv) Entry to Appu Ghar from Gate No. 4 | Rs. 2/- adult
Re. 1/- child |
| (v) Entry to Appu Ghar from Pragati Maidan near Skating Rink. | Re. 1/- adult
Rs. 0.50 child |
| (vi) Tickets for various fun rides in Appu Ghar vary from Re. 1/- to Rs. 3/- per head with a provision for concessional package ticket for group rides for adults and children. Organised groups of children are charged concessional rates for entry into Appu Ghar as well as for rides. | |

Mentally retarded, physically handi-

capped and spastic children are given free entry and rides in Appu Ghar.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration.

[English]

Opening of Branches of Nationalised Banks in Rural Areas

5173. **SHRI N. DENNIS :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by Government to direct the nationalised banks to open branches in rural and backward areas; and

(b) the criteria adopted to open branches of nationalised banks in rural and backward areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) In branch expansion policy the rural areas and unbanked/under banked pockets have been given preference for opening new branches of nationalised banks. As a result, the total number of rural branches in the post nationalisation period has increased from 1832 in June 1969 to 25929 as at the end of September 1984. As proportion the rural branches accounted for 56.2% of the total number of branches in September 1984. In June 1969, the proportion was only 22.2%. Over 60% of the incremental branch expansion during the above period has been at rural centres. The major burden of the branch expansion programme in rural areas has been borne by the Public Sector Banks and Regional Rural banks.

(b) The branch licensing policy covering the period April 1982 to march 1985 aimed at achieving a coverage of one bank office for every 17000 population in rural and semi-urban areas in each district. All the State Governments were advised to identify rural unbanked centres for opening offices in their respective States and branch expansion was allowed on the basis of their recommendations.

Seizure of Confiscated Goods in Coastal Areas

5174. **SHRI N. DENNIS :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some raids have been conducted by the Customs Department in coastal areas and smuggled goods were confiscated;

(b) if so, whether unaccounted money, smuggled gold and other contraband goods have been seized by the Customs officials during these raids; and

(c) if so, the details of the goods seized

during such raids in the last two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The number of raids and searches conducted by the Customs authorities and the value of goods seized at a result thereof on the West and East Coasts during the years 1983 and 1984 are furnished below :

	Number of raids/ searches conducted		Value of goods seized (value : Rs. in lakhs)	
	1983	1984	1983	1984
West Coast	4024	3896	570.42	865.65
East Coast	2842	3025	347.48	- 386.11
Total	6866	6921	917.90	1251.76

The commodity-wise value of the goods seized on the West Coast to and the East Coast during the years 1983 and 1984 (including the goods seized as a result of raids and searches conducted) is furnished below :

(Value : Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Gold	Watches	Synthetic fabrics	Silver	Other articles	Tonal
West Coast						
1983	334	457	1079	945	2986	5801
1984	583	910	1382	20	3038	5933
East Coast						
1983	44	55	373	1	1505	1978
1984	219	42	337	—	1474	2072

Figures for 1984 are provisional.

Reduction of Short Term Credit Limits by NABARD

5175. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has drastically reduced short term credit limits applied for by State cooperative banks behalf of Central co-operative banks and if so, how much amount has been reduced during 1984-85;

(b) the reasons thereof;

(c) whether before reducing the short term credit, State cooperative banks were taken into confidence;

(d) whether NABARD has also sanctioned short term credit limits of lesser amount to any of the Central cooperative banks in the year 1983-84 than the limits sanctioned in 1982-83;

(e) whether these limits were subsequently

raised by NABARD; and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) how far this lending programme for agricultural production has suffered due to arbitrary cuts in the limits and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). During 1984-85 (up to March, 1985), National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has sanctioned short term credit limits aggregating Rs. 1227 crores as against Rs. 1245 crores in the year 1983-84. Lower limits during 1984-85 were mainly on account of reduced limits sanctioned to Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank aggregating Rs. 75.50 crores as against Rs. 126.45 crores in the previous year due to comfortable resources position of the Maharashtra SCB as well as of many Central Cooperative Banks in the State.

(c) The National Bank sanctions credit limits to Central Cooperative Banks on the basis of credit gap between the realistic lending programme and the lendable resources available with them. It is therefore not essential to consult State Cooperative Banks.

(d) to (f). During 1983-84, fifty five Central Cooperative Banks were sanctioned lessers credit limits than those sanctioned in 1982-83. Subsequently additional limits were sanctioned to ten Central Cooperative Banks for 1983-84 due to their requirements of additional resources.

Legislation to Control and Regulate Functioning of Private Financial Institutions

5176. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the mashroom growth of private financial institutions which are exploiting the poor people have come to the notice of Union Government;

(b) whether Government are aware that these institutions are cover-ups for black money; and

(c) whether Government propose to bring a legislation to control and regulate the functioning of these institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). In recent years there has been reportedly a spurt in the activities of unincorporated financial institutions mostly partnership firms. Reserve Bank's directions as applicable to the financial companies incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 are not applicable to such firms which are increasing in number and are found to be accepting deposits from the public by offering exorbitant rates of interest. They also charge high rates of interest on the loans and advances granted to speculative and risky ventures. With a view to curb the deposit acceptance activities of these bodies, a new chapter III C has been incorporated in the RBI Act, 1934 through the enactment of Banking Laws (Amendment) Act, 1983. In terms of the provisions of the said chapter, which have come into force with effect from 15-2-1984, unincorporated bodies are prohibited from accepting deposits from more than the number of depositors specified therein. Since the administration of the relevant provisions concurrently vests in the State Government/Union Territories, Reserve Bank have addressed a circular letter to the Chief Secretaries of State Governments in February, 1984 impressing upon them the need for giving publicity to the provisions of chapter III C of the Act *ibid* as also for creating suitable administrative machinery to monitor the activities of such bodies and initiate action in respect of contravention, if any, of the provisions of the said Act. Reserve Bank is vigorously pursuing the matter with the concerned authorities of the State Governments.

In the context of the frequent advertisements appearing in newspapers offering high rates of interests by unincorporated bodies, Reserve Bank has recently called upon some of these concerns operating in the South to indicate within a stipulated time whether the deposits taken by these unincorporated bodies, conform to the provisions of the Act. The Reserve Bank proposes to take suitable action against these firms where necessary in due course.

Income Tax Raids in Kerala

5177. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of raids conducted by

Income Tax and Enforcement agencies in Kerala since January, 1985;

(b) the particulars of individuals and establishments where raids were conducted; and

(c) the particulars of individuals and establishments against whom cases were registered indicating details of their charges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Purchase of Cardamom from Kerala Marketing Federation

5178. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Cardamom Board did not purchase cardamom from Kerala Marketing Federation in 1980-84 though they had sufficient stock;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the quantity of cardamom that was available with the Kerala Marketing Federation in the same period; and

(d) the quantity purchased by the Cardamom Board from the Federation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b). The function of the Cardamom Board is to regulate the cardamom trade and industry. The Board does not undertake any direct purchase and sale of cardamom.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Reservation in Class I Service for SC/ST in LIC

5180. SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total strength of Class I Cadre in Life Insurance Corporation of India;

(b) the ratio of SC/ST Officers in LIC;

(c) the efforts being made by LIC to secure prescribed percentage at the rate of

22½ reservation in Class I services for SC/ST candidates; and

(d) whether LIC Management propose to hold a special promotion test amongst SC/ST LIC employees to promote them as AAAO as has been done by General Insurance Corporation, a sister concern?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). According to the information furnished by the Life Insurance Corporation, the total strength of Class I Cadre as on 31-12-84, is 6125.

The ratio of SC/ST Class I Officers in LIC is as under :

SC	1.45%
ST	0.60%

A large number of officers in LIC are those whose services were transferred to LIC from the erstwhile insurers. It was not the practice of these insurers generally to allow reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(c) LIC recruits candidates for the officers' cadre directly through open competition in the lowest rung of Class I cadre. Various relaxations are allowed to the SC/ST candidates such as selection by relaxed standard etc. All efforts are made by LIC to fill the reserved vacancies in respect of SC/ST in accordance with the prescribed percentages while making these recruitments.

(d) Promotions to the posts of AAAO are effected every year and SC/ST employees are granted a number of concessions/relaxations to enable them to compete for these posts. The promotions are governed by the Promotion Regulations, 1976 in which there is no provision for conducting special promotion tests.

Criteria for Allocating Funds by Public Financial Institutions to Private Companies

5181. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have adopted any criteria for allocating a lending funds by the public financial institutions to the private sector companies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Government of India have, from time to time, issued suitable guidelines to the public financial institutions in regard to allocation of funds for industries. These guidelines enjoin the financial institution to provide financial assistance to industries keeping in view the national priorities, labour intensiveness, degree of export-orientation, location in backward areas, nature of promoter/technology, extent of capacity built in the particular industry etc.

Affairs of Lakshmi Commercial Bank

5182. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the affairs of the Lakshmi Commercial Bank Ltd. have not been conducted in the interest of depositors or the share-holders for the last about 10 years;

(b) whether the situation continued to deteriorate even when two nominees of the Reserve Bank of India served on the Board of Directors of this Bank;

(c) whether a scheme cleared to merge this bank in the Canara Bank with effect from 1 July, 1984, was shelved because the majority share-holdings changed hands in the meantime;

(d) whether the affairs of this Bank continue to deteriorate with more than 75 per cent of advances being sticky and irrecoverable; and

(e) if so, the action Government and Reserve Bank of India propose to take in this matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (e). For sometimes past, there has been continuous deterioration in the working of the Lakshmi Commercial Bank Ltd. (LCB). Measures taken by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to improve its (LCB) functioning have not had the desired effect, RBI therefore, came to the conclusion that, keeping in view its present state of affairs, the Lakshmi Commercial Bank Ltd. may no longer be in a

position to function as a viable bank. On the recommendations of the RBI, the Central Government has issued an order of Moratorium in respect of the bank from the close of business on 27th April, 1985 and upto and inclusive of 28th August, 1985 under the provisions of section 45 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

The moratorium has been declared in the general interest of the depositors of the bank. The question of its (LCB) amalgamation with Punjab National Bank is now under the active consideration of the RBI.

Study made by R.B.I. on Industrial Sickness

5183. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the incidence of industrial sickness separately amongst larger, medium and small scale industries;

(b) the total amount of funds loaned by commercial banks and term-lending financial-institutions separately, which is locked up in these units;

(c) whether the Reserve Bank of India had undertaken a study of the causes leading to industrial sickness;

(d) if so, the findings of such a study; and

(e) the concrete measures Government/ Reserve Bank of India and the Commercial Banks/financial institutions have taken to rehabilitate these units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). According to the latest information available with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), as at the end of December, 1983, there were 491 large, 1256 medium and 78363 small scale units which were reported to be sick, with outstanding bank credit of Rs. 2014.33 crores, Rs. 357.97 crores and Rs. 728.99 crores respectively. As at the end of December, 1983, the financial institutions had respected a total of 314 large and medium scale units as being sick and the amount outstanding against them was Rs. 677.00 crores.

(c) and (d). RBI had conducted an analysis of sickness in some large units. The analysis indicated that the factors contributory to sickness included mismanagement/management deficiencies, faulty initial planning, labour trouble, market recession, power cut, shortage of raw materials, etc.

(e) The organisational steps taken by Government, RBI, banks and financial institutions in the matter of rehabilitation of sick industrial units include the setting up of a Sick Industrial Undertakings Cell in RBI, the setting up of State Level Inter Institutional Committees at all the regional offices of the Department of Banking Operations and Development of RBI for the purpose of ensuring better coordination between the banks, the State Governments, Central and State Level Financial Institutions and other agencies; creation of a Special Cell within the Rehabilitation Finance Division of Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) for attending to references from banks in respect of their sick and problems cases; creation of Sick Units Cells in the banks, establishment of the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India as the apex agency to deal with industrial sickness, etc. In regard to individual sick units a case to case study is made. Suitable rehabilitation packages are worked out in respect of the viable sick units. The rehabilitation packages may include various concessions like reduction in rate of interest, rescheduling of dues, moratorium on payments, funding of interest, etc. depending on the merits of each case.

Branches of Commercial Banks and their total Deposits

5184. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of commercial banks' branches (categories) and their total deposits as on 31st December, 1984;

(b) the total number of Regional rural banks, their number of branches, number of districts covered and the total deposits as on 31st December, 1984;

(c) the overall rate of growth in commercial banks deposits in 1984 and how does it compare with deposits in 1981, 1982 and 1983;

(d) whether a number of public sector banks have recorded a rate of growth which is far less than the overall rate of growth; and

(e) if so, the names of those banks and their respective rates of growth ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) According to provisional data, deposits of all Scheduled Commercial Banks as on the last Friday of December, 1984 stood at Rs. 69804 crores. Distribution of branches of all commercial banks according to different population groups is available for September, 1984 and is given below :

1. Rural	25929
2. Semi-urban	9314
3. Urban	5892
4. Metropolitan/port towns	4988
5. Total	46123

(b) As at the end of December, 1984, there were 173 Regional Rural Banks covering 299 districts. Data about their operations is, however, available upto September 1984. The 165 Regional Rural Banks in position as at the end of September 1984 had opened 9148 branches and mobilised Rs. 787.17 crores in deposits.

(c) to (e). Percentage growth rate of deposits of public sector banks and all scheduled commercial banks during the last four years is given below :

	Public Sector Banks (SBI Group + 20— Nationalised Banks)	All Scheduled Commercial Banks
1981	19.6	19.6
1982	17.6	18.0
1983	17.3	17.6
1984*	14.0	14.0

*Provisional.

During 1984, 8 of the 28 public sector banks have recorded a lower percentage

growth of deposits than that achieved by all scheduled commercial banks. These banks are :

	(% Growth)
1. State Bank of Saurashtra	12.0
2. Central Bank of India	8.0
3. Bank of Baroda	4.8
4. United Commercial Bank	2.9
5. Syndicate Bank	9.2
6. Bank of Maharashtra	9.1
7. Punjab and Sind Bank	4.9
8. New Bank of India	8.7

Based on provisional data

Opening of Branches of Allahabad Bank

5185. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branches of Allahabad Bank opened in the country so far, State-wise;

(b) the number of branches opened during last three years in different States and Union Territories;

(c) whether some new branches of Allahabad Bank are proposed to be opened in 1985-86; and

(d) if so, the number of new branches of Allahabad Bank proposed to be opened in different districts of Orissa in 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Available information in this regard is set out in the statement attached.

(c) and (d). The branch licensing policy for the Seventh Five Year Plan Period has not yet been finalised.

Strtement

State-wise/Union Territory-wise number of branches opened by Allahabad Bank during the year 1982, 1983 and 1984 (upto September) and the number of branches of the banks functioning in the country as at the end of September 1984.

S. No.	States/Union Territories	Number of branches opened during			Number of branches at the end of Sept. 1984*
		1982	1983	1984* (upto Sept.)	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Andhra Pradesh		1	—	—	14
2. Assam		2	1	2	23
3. Bihar		11	2	10	129
4. Gujarat		1	—	1	12
5. Haryana		—	—	—	14
6. Himachal Pradesh		—	—	—	2
7. Jammu and Kashmir		—	—	—	2
8. Karnataka		—	—	1	7
9. Kerala		—	—	—	4
10. Madhya Pradesh		1	7	2	132

1	2	3	4	5	6
11. Maharashtra		4	5	—	60
12. Manipur		—	—	—	2
13. Meghalaya		—	—	—	1
14. Nagaland		—	—	—	4
15. Orissa		2	—	3	24
16. Punjab		—	—	—	27
17. Rajasthan		1	—	—	17
18. Sikkim		—	—	—	—
19. Tamil Nadu		1	1	—	14
20. Tripura		—	—	—	1
21. Uttar Pradesh		14	15	3	410
22. West Bengal		4	12	5	177
23. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		—	—	—	—
24. Arunachal Pradesh		—	—	—	—
25. Chandigarh		—	—	—	2
26. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		—	—	—	—
27. Delhi		—	3	—	34
28. Goa, Daman Diu		—	—	—	1
29. Lakshadweep		—	—	—	—
30. Mizoram		—	—	—	—
31. Pondichery		—	—	—	—
Total		42	46	27	1113

*Data provisional.

**Opening of more Banking Service
Recruitment Boards**

5186. SHRIMATI JAYANTI
PATNAIK : Will the Minister of
FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to open more number of Banking Service Recruitment Boards;

(b) if so, whether Government have a proposal to open of a Banking Service Recruitment Board at Bhubaneswar also; and

(c) the places selected in other States

for locating the new Banking Service Recruitment Boards ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c).
Government have taken a decision to re-
organise the existing Recruitment Boards so
that in future one recruitment board would
be recruiting clerical candidates for all the
28 public sector banks within its area of
jurisdiction. The centres at which the re-
organised Boards would be located and their
coverage is indicated in the statement
attached.

Statement*Proposed new set-up of the Banking Service Recruitment Boards*

Recruitment Board Headquarters	Geographical area for clerical recruitment of all banks including State Banks of India and its Associate Banks
1. Calcutta	West Bengal, Sikkim and Andaman and Nicobar Islands
2. Patna	Bihar
3. Bhubaneswar	Orissa
4. Madras	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry
5. Bangalore	Karnataka
6. Delhi	Delhi and Haryana
7. Chandigarh	Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Chandigarh.
8. Bombay	Maharashtra and Goa
9. Baroda	Gujarat, Daman and Diu, Dadra-Nagar Haveli
10. Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh
11. Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh
12. Guwahati	North-Eastern States and Union Territories
13. Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
14. Trivandrum	Kerala and Lakshadweep
15. Jaipur	Rajasthan

Private Traders to Export Wheat

5187. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to allow private traders to export wheat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government consider that foodgrains stock position in the country is comfortable and there is surplus for export ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) . (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Export of wheat and wheat products viz. maida, suji and whole meal atta i.e. wheat flour of not less than 95% extraction

has been allowed within limited ceilings subject to minimum Export Prices as given below :

Wheat Rs. 1600 per tonne f.o.b. in bulk

Whole meal atta (i.e. wheat flour of not less than 95% extraction) Rs. 1750 per tonne f.o.b.

Maida/suji Rs. 2050 per tonne f.o.b.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Branches of Indian Banks in Australia

5189. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Indian banks have got their branches in Australia;

(b) if so, the name of such Indian banks;

(c) the number of branches of those Indian commercial banks opened in Australia; and

(d) since when those Bank branches have been functioning in Australia ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Projects taken up by Financial Institutions

5190. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the all-India financial institutions in the country;

(b) the main function of these all-India financial institutions;

(c) the number of projects taken up by

the earth all-India financial institutions in last three years; and

(d) the total investment involved in each of these project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) and Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) function as term-lending, development institutions at the all-India level to cater to long term financial needs of industries. The Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India (IRBI) functions as the principal credit and reconstruction agency for industrial revival. The Export Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) is the principal financial institution for financing exports and imports.

(c) and (d). Details of number of new projects taken up for assistance by the institutions during the last 3 years and the total investment of the institutions in these projects are indicated below :

Institution	Period	Number of new projects	Amount sanctioned (Rs. crores)
IDBI	1981-82 to 1983-84 (July-June)	327	1124.9
IFCI	—do—	366	556.42
ICICI	1982-83 to 1984-85 (Apr. Mar.)	402	609.98
IRBI	1981-82 to 1983-84 (July-June)	162	118.31
Exim	1982-84 (Jan.-Dec.)	173	(a) 266.03 (funded) (b) 234.37 (non-funded)

Demand of Indian Garments Abroad

5191. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the total value of the garments exported during last three years (year-wise);

(b) the names of the countries which are importing garments from India;

(c) whether there is increasing demand for Indian made garments in many countries;

(d) whether Government have received order to supply garments from any new country in 1984; and

(e) the export target fixed for 1985 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES

(SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :

(a) According to available information the total value of garments exported during the last three years is given below :

Value in Rs. Crores

1982 633.57

1983 640.13

1984 850.10

(b) Garments are exported from India to a large number of countries. Our main markets are the U.S.A., the USSR, West Europe, Canada, Japan, Australia etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Among the new markets for which the exporters have received orders for garments during 1984 are Algeria, Argentina, Bangla Desh, Bolivia, Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Peru, South Korea and Turkey.

(e) The export target for garments for 1985 has been provisionally fixed at Rs. 950 crores.

Public Sector Undertaking in Gujarat

5192. SHRI R. P. GAEKWAD : Will

the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to lay a statement showing :

(a) the names of Central Government Undertakings located in the Gujarat along with the authorised capital of each of the undertaking;

(b) the number of employees working in each such Undertaking;

(c) the net profits earned by these Undertakings during 1984-85;

(d) whether there is any proposal to set up any new Public Undertakings in the State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The plants/units/area of operation of the Central public enterprises are often spread over more than one State. It is, therefore, presumed that the intention of the Hon. Member is to know the details of Central public enterprises which have their registered office located in Gujarat. The details of such Central Government undertakings are as follows :

Names of the undertakings with registered offices located in Gujarat	Authorised capital as on 31-3-1984 (Rs. crores)	No. of employees as on 31-3-1984	Net profits for the year 1984-85 based on quick estimates (Rs. crores)
1. Indian Petrochemicals Corpn. Ltd.	200	6422	51.00
2. NTC (Gujarat) Ltd.	15	20685	(—)19.95
3. Indian Dairy Corpn.	1	542	12.70

(d) and (e). As the Seventh Plan is still under finalisation, no details in this regard are available.

Production and Import of Key Minerals and Metals

5193. SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the key minerals and metals which are in short supply in 1985;

(b) the reserves and domestic production of such minerals and metals;

(c) the imports and sources of imports; and

(d) the percentage share of imports and availability ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

Production and Exports of Major Minerals and Metallic Ores

5194. SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the estimates as on January 1985, of reserves of major minerals and metallic ores with energy content of key ingredients;

(b) the production thereof during the last three years;

(c) the exports thereof, if any, during the last three years;

(d) the percentage share of exports in total production of each of the minerals and metallic ores; and

(e) the expected life of the reserves of each of the minerals and metallic ores at the current rate of production ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) to (e). The information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

Production of Raw Steel and Stainless Steel by Steel Plants

5195. SHRI E. S. M. PAKEER MOHAMED : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of raw steel and stainless steel produced by various steel plants during the last three years;

(b) whether the steel industry is making any profits; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) The production of raw steel and stainless steel in the Steel Plants of SAIL during the last three years has been as under :

Raw Steel

(‘000 tonnes)

Plant	1982	1983	1984
Bhilai Steel Plant	2133	1878	1964
Durgapur Steel Plant	932	848	794
Rourkela Steel Plant	1155	1085	1098
Bokaro Steel Limited	1822	1686	1899
Indian Iron and Steel Company	593	579	458
Alloy Steels Plant	82	67	80
	—	—	—
Total	6717	6143	6293
	—	—	—

Stainless Steel

(‘000 tonnes)

Plant	1982	1983	1984
Alloy Steel Plant			
(Durgapur) (Ingots)	15.4	18.2	16.1
Salem Steel Plant*			
(Salem)	7.5	5.9	14.2

*(Cold Rolled Stainless steel/coils and sheets produced out of hot bands procured from outside sources).

Figures of raw steel production are maintained calendar year-wise as per international practice.

(b) and (c). SAIL had been making profits upto 1981-82. However, in the subsequent two years, i.e. 1982-83 and 1983-84, it incurred losses of Rs. 105.76 crores and Rs. 214.53 crores respectively. The main reasons for the losses have been that the price increases did not fully compensate SAIL for the increased costs of the inputs.

For 1984-85, SAIL is expected to make a profit, the exact amount will be known after the accounts are closed.

[Translation]

World Bank Loan to Various Projects in Bihar

5196. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amounts of loan taken by Government of Bihar for its various projects from the World Bank and other similar agencies so far;

(b) the names of the projects for which loan has been taken;

(c) the terms and conditions on which loan has been given;

(d) the names of the places where the projects, for which loan has been taken, will be set up; and

(e) whether these loans are being repaid regularly ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a), (b) and (d). A statement indicating the details of projects for which assistance has been given to the Bihar Government by the World Bank is annexed. All are IDA assisted projects.

(c) IDA credits have a repayment period of fifty years which includes a grace period of 10 years. They carry no interest charge, but a service charge of 0.75% on the disbursed portion of the credit and a commitment fee of 0.50% on the undisbursed portion.

(e) Loans from World Bank are taken by Government of India and the proceeds are passed on to the State Governments. The repayment liability of these loans, therefore, lies with Government of India.

Statement

The details of projects for which World Bank assistance has been given to the Government of Bihar [vide parts (a), (b) and (d) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 5196 for 3-5-1985]

(In US dollar million)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Date of Agreement	Amount of IDA Credit	Project Area and Description
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Bihar Rural Roads	5-12-1980	35.00	The project involves <i>inter-alia</i> construction and improvement and strengthening of about 700 kms. of rural roads administered by Rural Engineering Organisation of Bihar in the districts of Begusarai, Western Champaran, Seharsa, Eastern Champaran, Samastipur, Saran, Siwan, Aurangabad, Bhagalpur, Rhotas, Bhijpur, Gaya, Manghyr, Nawadah, Patna, Palamau, Ranchi and Singhbhum
2.	Bihar Agricultural Extension	6-1-1978	8 00	The project seeks to achieve early and sustained improvement in agricultural production, particularly of foodgrains throughout the State of Bihar

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3. Sone Irrigation	29-6-1962	15.00	The project would improve and extend the present Sone Irrigation System. The main works include (1) a new diversion barrage near Dehri; (2) construction of link canals to irrigate and additional 273,000 crop acres
4. Subarnarekha Irrigation	9-11-1982	127.00	The project will be implemented in Bihar and Orissa States. It comprises the first phase of Subarnarekha Irrigation system. It involves construction works on (i) Chandil Dam and Left Canal; (ii) the Galudih Barrage and Canals; (iii) Ichha Dam and Canals; and (iv) Kharkai Canals; and (v) Minor distribution in an area of about 21,000 ha. in project area in Bihar
5. Inland Fisheries	18-1-1980	20.00	This is a multistate project in which Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa, M. P. and U. P. are participating. In Bihar the project is implemented in 17 districts, viz. Paschimi, Champaran, Purbi Champaran, Sitamarhi, Madhubani, Saharsa, Purnea, Gopalganj, Siwan, Saran, Muzaffarpur, Vaishali, Darbhanga, Samastipur, Begusarai, Katihar, Patna and Monghyr

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Second N.S.P.	17-7-1978	16.00	A multi-State project comprising Bihar, U. P., Orissa, Karnataka and Rajasthan States. In Bihar it is implemented in Rohtash and Bhojpur districts
7.	Second N.C.D.C.	21-7-1981	125.00	A multi-State project comprising Bihar, West Bengal, M. P., U. P., Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Haryana, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh. No area is specified in Bihar
8.	Bihar Agricultural Market	29-3-1972	14.00	50 towns throughout the State of Bihar

Gold Production

5197. SHRI E. S. M. PAKEER MOHAMED : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of gold produced in the country annually;

(b) the value of the gold produced; and

(c) whether Government have any plans to increase the production of gold and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) and (b). The total amount of gold produced during 1984-85 by Bharat Gold Mines Limited, Hutti Gold Mines Co. Limited and Hindustan Copper Limited is 2051 kgs. The value of the gold produced

as stated above is approximately Rs. 37.31 crores.

(c) The working of the Bharat Gold Mines Ltd. is being toned up to increase gold production. Other areas where economically viable gold reserves are found will be taken up for exploitation.

Cash Subsidies to various Industrial Units from 1981 to 1984

5198. SHRI E. S. M. PAKEER MOHAMED : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the amount of cash subsidy, duty drawbacks and any other type of subsidies extended to various industrial units from 1981 to 1984 (year-wise) for boosting exports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : A Statement is attached.

Statement

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Cash Compensatory Support	Grants in-aid to export promotion and market development organisations	Interest subsidy	Duty drawback
1981-82	452.48	6.42	18.00	204.00
1982-83	449.75	7.18	20.00	127.00
1983-84	431.50	9.80	21.33	129.00

Setting up of Aluminium Research, Development and Design Centre in Maharashtra

5199. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether a team of officers of his Ministry visited some sites in Maharashtra to decide the location of the Aluminium Research, Development and Design Centre, a Central Project;

(b) if so, whether the State Government has assured full co-operation and assistance for this project;

(c) if so, whether a decision regarding the site has been taken and the details thereof; and

(d) the brief details of the project i.e. outlay, time by which this will come up and the different areas of study to be undertaken by the Union Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) A team of officers constituted by the Department of Mines visited a few sites in and around Nagpur for selection of a suitable site for the proposed Aluminium Research, Development and Design Centre, a Central Project.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per the recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Steering Group, Nagpur has been recommended as the most appropriate site.

(d) The estimated outlay for the project is Rs. 24 crores. The Project will start after approval by the Public Investment Board and the Government. Main areas of study to be undertaken by the proposed project cover research and development on alumina and aluminium including alloys, semi-products, finished products and also basic design and engineering.

Amendment to Section 44 (F) Insurance Act to Cover Zila Parishad Employees

5200. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have been constantly reminding his Ministry to amend the Section 44 (F) of Insurance Act to enable them to accommodate the staff of the Zila Parishad under the Scheme of Group Insurance since 1982;

(b) if so, the reasons for not initiating any action in this regard; and

(c) whether any action is contemplated in this regard; and

(d) if so, when the amending legislation will be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). A proposal had been received from the State Government of Maharashtra of amendment of Section 44 (F) of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956 in respect of employees of Zila Parishads in Maharashtra. The matter was examined. The Government does not contemplate at present any amendment of Section 44(f) of the Act.

Proposal to provide Leco at Neyveli Lignite Corporation

5201, DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN :

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to provide Leco (by Briquetting) at Neyveli Lignite Corporation in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the total amount of Leco proposed to be produced and the total cost involved therein; and

(c) the time by which the project is going to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). Neyveli Lignite Corporation has a low temperature briquetting and carbonisation plant with a capacity of 2,62,000 tonnes of leco and fines per year.

A feasibility report for setting up a high temperature coking plant with a capacity of 400000 tonnes of coke per annum is in the process of being recast by Neyveli Lignite Corporation.

Assistance from O.P.E.C. Fund, West Asian East European Countries to India

5202. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the external assistance received by India in 1984 from Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries Fund, West Asian and East European countries; and

(b) the details of the Project for which the said assistance was received ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House,

Statement

The Details of External Assistance received by India in 1984 from OPEC Fund, West Asian and East European Countries. And Details of Projects which received the Said Assistance

(a) Assistance received from 1-1-84 to 31-12-84

Name of Donor Country/Agency	Donor Currency (Million)	Rupees (Crores)
1	2	3
1. OPEC Fund for International Development	US \$ 3.387	3.72
2. Saudi Fund for Development (Saudi Arabia)	SAUDI RIYALS 12.567	3.95
3. Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (Kuwait)	KUWAITI DINARS 14.409	54.73
4. U.S.S.R.	ROUBIES 92.472	97.19

(b) Projects which received the assistance

Donor Agency	Name of Project
1	2
1. OPEC Fund	(i) Loan No. 119-P dated 10-5-79 for Korba Thermal Power Project. (ii) Loan No. 198-P dated 24-10-80 for Ramagundam Thermal Power Project.
2. Saudi Fund	(i) Loan No. 1/38 dated 2-6-77 for Srisailem and Nagarjunasagar Hydro Electric Project.
3. Kuwait Fund	(i) Loan No. 196 dated 22-9-81 for Anpara Power (Coal Transportation and Handling Project). (ii) Loan No. 182 dated 10-5-81 for Anpara 'A' Power Project. (iii) Loan No. 121 dated 4-7-78 for Kopili Hydro Electric Project. (iv) Loan No. 225 dated 12-7-82 for Thal Vaishet Fertilizer Project.
4. USSR	(i) Roubles 300 million Credit dated 10-12-1966. (a) Expansion of Bokaro Steel Project (Upto 4 million per annum stage) (b) Expansion of Bhilai Steel Plant (Upto 4 million per annum stage)

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- (c) Oil and Natural Gas Commission Projects;
- (d) Aluminium Plant, Korba, (Balco)
- (e) Metropolitan Transport Project, Rly. Calcutta.
- (ii) Roubles 250 million Credit dated 27-4-1977.
Visakhapatnam Steel Project (Stage I)
- (iii) Roubles 520 million Credit dated 10-12-1980.
- (a) Oil and Natural Gas Commission Projects.
- (b) Vindhyaachal Power Project.
- (c) Coal India Ltd.

New Industrial Units Financed by IDBI & ICICI

5203. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of number of new industrial units financed by Industrial Development Bank of India and Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India in backward areas of the country during 1984-85; and

(b) the total amount of money spent by these institutions for the development of infrastructure in backward areas during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The information in respect of new industrial units financed by Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) and Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) in backward areas during 1984-85 (April-March) is as follows :—

Institutions	Number of units
I.D.B.I.	97
I.C.I.C.I.	86

(b) Assistance sanctioned by IDBI and ICICI for development of infrastructure in backward area during the last three years are Rs. 5.19 crores and Rs. 0.69 crores, respectively.

Seed Capital Assistance by IDBI to New Entrepreneurs

5204 : SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India provides seed capital assistance for new entrepreneurs putting up their industries in small scale and medium sector to meet the equity shortfall;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of entrepreneurs assisted under this scheme during the last three years.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All projects eligible for financial assistance from industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) are eligible for assistance under the Seed Capital Assistance Scheme, Subject to ceiling on project cost being upto Rs. 3 crores. The scheme is operated through the agency of notified State Industrial Development Corporations/State Financial Corporations and in some cases, directly by IDBI. Basically, the applicant should be a new entrepreneur. The entrepreneurs should also be technically and professionally qualified or possess relevant experience or skills either in industry, business or trade or should have the traits of an entrepreneur for setting

up and running the enterprise successfully. Assistance is given in the form of Soft Loan or subscription to equity capital and/or 1% cumulative redeemable preference shares. The amount of seed capital assistance, per project, is not to exceed Rs. 15 lakhs.

(c) During the last three years 358 entrepreneurs were assisted under the Scheme.

Seizure and Confiscation of Goods in Calcutta

5205. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2941 on the 12th April, 1985 regarding sale of smuggled goods in Calcutta and state;

(a) the reasons why despite increase in the value of goods seized, the value of goods actually confiscated during 1984 as compared to that in 1983, has declined;

(b) the position in the matter of seizure and confiscation of goods during the period between 1980 to 1982; and

(c) the particulars of persons detained under COFEPOSA and the details of the smugglers' gangs identified in Calcutta and immobilised during the past two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Goods seized under the Customs Act in a particular year are not necessarily confiscated in the same year. The adjudication proceedings following seizures of the goods, investigations, issue of Show-Cause notice, personal hearing, examination and cross examination of witnesses etc., culminating in the passing of an order for confiscation or otherwise, are quasijudicial in character and necessarily take time which varies depending on the promptness or the otherwise of the response of the charged party. Such proceedings are held up when the parties involved obtain stay from the Courts.

(b) The position in regard to the aggregate value of smuggled goods seized and confiscated during the period from 1980 to 1982 in Calcutta is furnished below :

(Value : Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Value of goods seized	Value of goods confiscated
1980	180.75	197.42
1981	331.88	317.72
1982	849.20	63.08

(c) In the State of West Bengal, 9 major smugglers' gangs engaged in the smuggling of contraband gold, wrist watches, and other consumer goods were identified and immobilised from 1983 till date. Particulars regarding the number of detention orders issued under the COFEPOSA Act and the number of smugglers detained in the State of West Bengal during 1983 and 1984 are furnished below :

Year	Number of detention orders issued under COFEPOSA Act	Number of persons detained under COFEPOSA Act
1983	15	9
1984	35	23

Production of Steel Plates/Corten Steel required for manufacture of Railway Coaches

5206. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Steel Plants in India are not manufacturing the type of steel required by the Railways particularly the steel plates/corten steel required for the manufacture of railway coaches;

(b) if so, the reasons why it has not been so far possible for the Steel Plants in India to manufacture such type of steel;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for manufacture of such steel to reduce Railways' dependence on imports; and

(d) the progress made in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (d). SAIL are manufacturing and supplying to the Railways

steel plates/sheets required for the manufacture and maintenance of railway wagons/coaches. These supplies to the Railways have been progressively on the increase as the following statement will show :

1982-83	96,700 tonnes
1983-84	1,23,300 tonnes
1984-85	1,27,900 tonnes
(Provisional)	

SAIL developed weather resistance steel which is equivalent to railway's corten steel for the manufacture of railway wagons. This steel will require further development and tests before it can be supplied to the Railways on a regular basis.

**Fire in Coal handling Plant in Jayant
Coal Mine in Sidhi District of
Madhya Pradesh**

5207. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether a loss of one crore rupees has been suffered due to mysterious fire in the Rs. 18 crore coal handling plant under construction in Jayant Coal Mine in Sidhi district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the causes of this fire;

(c) whether Government have ordered an enquiry into it;

(d) if so, the time by which this enquiry is likely to be completed; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (e). On 23rd March, 1985 at about 9.00 PM there was an incident of fire in the main conveyor system of the Coal Handling Plant at the Jayant Opencast mine in the Singrauli coalfield in Sidhi District (Madhya Pradesh). This part of the coal handling plant is being constructed by the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi (a Public Sector Enterprise) on turnkey basis. The Central Coalfields Limited have set up an enquiry Committee to investigate into the cause of fire and to assess the extent of loss due to fire and to suggest remedial measures. The

details will be known after the enquiry report is available.

**Better Trade Relations between Malaysia
and India**

5208. SHRI HARIHAR SOKEN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Malaysia has expressed its desire to narrow down the existing trade gap between the two countries (India and Malaysia);

(b) whether Malaysia proposes to import more and more items from India for that purpose;

(c) if so, the items on which Malaysia proposes to establish better trade relationship; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) and (b). During his visit to India in March 1985, the Malaysian Minister for Primary Industries stated that Malaysia would explore the possibilities of additional imports from India, including items like wheat, iron ore, rice, and manufactured goods.

[Translation]

Survey of Mineral Deposits in Bihar

5209. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the extent to which mineral deposits in Bihar State have been surveyed;

(b) the district-wise results of such surveys; and

(c) whether Union Government have a proposal for intensive survey of mineral resources available in abundance in Bihar ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). Based on the investigation carried out for various minerals in Bihar by Geological Survey of India and State Government, the estimated reserves of major minerals in various districts of Bihar are furnished in the statement attached.

(c) A large number of minerals in Bihar, diamonds, are being investigated by Geological Survey of India during 1984-85 field season. which include coal, basemetals, fireclay, mica, apatite, kyanite, gold and source rocks for

Statement

The estimated reserves of major minerals in various districts of Bihar

Name of Mineral	Estimated reserves (in lakh tonnes)	Name of District
1	2	3
Coal	1,95,216.4	Dhanbad
	46,169.2	Giridih
	2,19,367.5	Hazaribagh
	81,010.2	Santhal Parganas
	15,269.7	Palamau

Total :	5,57,033.0	

Manganese ore	1.4	Singhbhum
Iron ore	35,714.5	Singhbhum
Chromite	4.6	Singhbhum
Limestone	673.1	Hazaribagh
	1,965.2	Palamau
	426.9	Ranchi
	2,894.3	Rohtas
	770.0	Singhbhum

Total :	6,729.5	

Dolomite	345.7	Palamau
Vanadiferous titaniferous magnetite	11.18	Singhbhum
Copper ore	2,146.3	Singhbhum
	5.0	Hazaribagh

Total :	2,151.3	

1	2	3
Bauxite	15.1	Monghyr
	31.1	Palamau
	558.1	Ranchi
	128.3	Santhal Parganas
	<u>732.6</u>	
Total :		
Fire Clay	56.4	Palamau
	90.1	Dhanbad
	0.7	Singhbhum
	86.9	Hazaribagh
	5.6	Giridih
	22.9	Ranchi
	58.3	Santhal Parganas
	<u>320.9</u>	
Total :		
China clay	126.3	Singhbhum
	195.8	Santhal Paraganas
	0.1	Manghyr
	13.6	Ranchi
	13.1	Bhagalpur
	<u>348.9</u>	
Total :		
Asbestos	1.18	Singhbhum
Apatite	17.8	Singhbhum
Pyrite	203.3	Rohtas
Kyanite	0.9	Singhbhum
Graphite	51.3	Palamau
Andalusite	13.0	Palamau
Vormiculite	30.48 (tonnes)	Hazaribagh
Bentonite	1.0	Santhal Parganas
Silica sand	1,508.8	Santhal Parganas
Barytes	0.14	Palamau
	0.04	Singhbhum
	<u>0.18</u>	
Total :		

1	2	3
Mica	Reserve not estimated	Hazaribagh, Gaya, Monghyr, Palamau, Ranchi, Singhbhum, Bhagalpur and Dhanbad.

[Translation]

**Financial Assistance to Persons Under
I.R.D.P. in Bihar**

5210. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have issued any instructions to the nationalised banks in Bihar in regard to the grant of financial assistance to the persons to be benefited under the Integrated Rural Development Programme;

(b) if so, the number of the bank branches opened in Bihar, district-wise, for granting financial assistance in the State; and

(c) whether Government have asked for a report about the number of beneficiaries in the State who received assistance from various banks during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India has been issuing instructions to banks from time to time for providing an easy and adequate flow of credit under the Integrated Rural Development Programme. All bank branches operating in Bihar State are expected to provide credit to identified rural poor families falling in their jurisdiction under IRDP.

(c) The Government have been receiving monthly progress reports according to which 12.83 lakhs beneficiaries have received assistance in Bihar under the Integrated Rural Development Programme during the last three years (till February, 1985).

**Loan Disbursed by Branches of Nationalised
Banks in Gaya District of Bihar**

5211. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications received by various nationalised banks in Gaya district (Bihar) during the period from January, 1983 to March, 1985 seeking 4 per cent differential rate of interest loans under the 20-Point Programme;

(b) the number of applications out of them against which loans were advanced, the number of applications rejected and the number of those under consideration;

(c) the amount of loan actually disbursed by each bank; and

(d) the amount of loan targeted for distribution under the above programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The present data reporting system for the public sector banks under Differential Rate of Interest Scheme does not yield the information in the manner asked for. However, a statement showing bank-wise position of number of accounts and amount outstanding in Bihar State under the DRI Scheme as on December, 1983 (Provisional) is attached.

(d) Under the DRI Scheme, outstanding advances of public sector banks have to reach a minimum level of 1% of total advances outstanding at the end of previous year. No State-wise targets have been prescribed.

Statement

*Advances of public sector banks in Bihar under the Differential Rate of Interest Scheme at the end of December, 1983**

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank	No. of Borrowal Accounts	Amount outstanding (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	State Bank of India	133389	937.94
2.	Subs. of State Bank of India	132	0.57
3.	Central Bank of India	82603	690.48
4.	Bank of India	46580	263.64
5.	Punjab National Bank	29307	333.50
6.	Bank of Baroda	3628	24.00
7.	United Commercial Bank	9786	114.98
8.	Canara Bank	19293	104.53
9.	United Bank of India	7426	61.73
10.	Dena Bank	372	3.92
11.	Syndicate Bank	390	5.31
12.	Union Bank of India	10781	100.05
13.	Allahabad Bank	8438	68.58
14.	Indian Bank	382	2.05
15.	Bank of Maharashtra	—	—
16.	Indian Overseas Bank	718	4.42
17.	Andhra Bank	34	0.55
18.	New Bank of India	104	1.24
19.	Punjab and Sind Bank	247	4.01
20.	Vijaya Bank	187	2.77
21.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	12	0.15
22.	Corporation Bank	—	—
All Banks		353809	2724.42

*Data Provisional,

[English]

Merger of DRI Scheme with IRDP

5212. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal for the merger of DRI Scheme with IRDP;

(b) if so, the main purpose of such merger; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to strengthen DRI and IRDP in the Seventh Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The Government have not taken any decision to merge the Differential Rate of Interest Scheme (DRI) with Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP).

Since the Seventh Plan has yet to be finalised it is not possible to specifically list out at this stage the steps that would be taken to strengthen IRDP during the Seventh Plan. As regards DRI Scheme the Government is examining the recommendations of a Task Force that had been set up to examine and made recommendations on, *inter alia*, the various provisions of the DRI Scheme and the modifications, if any, considered necessary.

Per Capita Investment in U.T.I. and L.I.C.

5213. SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are finalising a scheme to boost equity cult in rural areas;

(b) whether per capita investments in Unit Trust of India and Life Insurance Corporation by public in rural areas are comparable to similar figures pertaining to urban areas and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Government are examining a proposal for the further development of equity cult in semi-urban and rural areas.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

News Item Captioned—'Ek Karor Ke Ghaple Mein Paanch Custom Adhikari Muatal'

5214. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Ek Karor Ke Ghaple Main Paanch Custom Adhikari Muatal" appeared in 'Jansatta' of 12 April, 1985;

(b) if so, whether no action has been taken against the Assistant Collector responsible for hatching the conspiracy to smuggle;

(c) the tenure of posting at airports and whether that is followed strictly;

(d) whether the system is working satisfactorily or does it want some going through;

(e) the number of customs and central excise Inspectors and above who are under suspension, and since when; and

(f) the reasons therefor and full details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Action has been taken against the concerned Assistant Collector and he has been placed under suspension with effect from 13-4-1985.

(c) There is no fixed tenure of posting at the Export Cargo Complex at the Airports. The officers and staff are, however, rotated periodically. Of the officers posted in the Airpool, a tenure of 2 to 3 years has been fixed which is generally adhored to.

(d) The working is reviewed periodically and necessary action is taken to bring about improvements. This system is working satisfactorily.

(e) and (f). In the case referred to in the news item referred at (a) above, one Superintendent and four Inspectors were placed under suspension on 11-4-1985 and one Assistant Collector on 13-4-1985 for suspected involvement in allowing export of garments mis-declared as "Indian Items" and/or "Handloom Items".

Car Confiscated by Collector of Customs, Calcutta

5215. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a foreign Datson car was confiscated by Collector of Customs, Calcutta and the same was purchased by the Custom Office;

(b) if so, the cost of the car at which purchased;

(c) the amount spent for its repairs from Government exchequer; and

(d) by whom this imported car is being used; and

(e) whether it is being used for official or personal purposes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) A foreign Datson car was confiscated by the Collector of Customs, Calcutta but the same has not been purchased by the Customs Office.

(b) In view of (a) above, the question does not arise.

(c) An amount of Rs. 9145 has been spent for repairs and maintenance of the car.

(d) and (e). The car has been sparingly used by the various officers of Calcutta Custom House and Preventive Collectorate for official purposes only, for keeping the car in a running condition pending its disposal.

Loss suffered by SAIL

5216. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "SAIL Vs TISCO" appeared in the New Delhi edition of 'Financial Express' of 3 April, 1985;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in spite of giving figures comparing operational methods by the Steel

Authority of India Ltd., the profitability of Tata Iron and Steel Company Ltd. is rising every year with declaration of dividends regularly while the Steel Authority of India Limited has carried forward huge losses during the last five years; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Comparison of the profitability of SAIL and TISCO would not be strictly appropriate due to differences in the capacities, health of the plants, location and ownership of sources of raw materials, processes and technologies, product-mix etc. The integrated steel plant at Bhilai is nearest to TISCO Steel Plant in product-mix and capacity and compares favourably with TISCO. During the last about twelve years, Bhilai earned higher net profit than TISCO.

Capacity Utilisation of S.A.I.L. and T.I.S.C.O. during 1982, 1983 and 1984

5217. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the total average capacity utilisation of the entire Steel Authority of India Limited during 1982, 1983 and 1984 as well as the capacity utilisation of Tata Iron and Steel Company Limited during the same period;

(b) the total sales revenue and net profit of S.A.I.L. and T.I.S.C.O. during 1982, 1983 and 1984; and

(c) whether S.A.I.L. needs further overhauling in management both in top and floor level (Plant) ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). The overall capacity utilisation in respect of saleable steel at the four integrated steel plants of SAIL and that of TISCO for the years 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84 is as follows :

Year	Overall percent capacity utilisation at the four SAIL Integrated Steel Plants	TISCO
1981-82	81%	107%
1982-83	81%	108%
1983-84	68%	108%
1984-85	76%	99%

The sales revenue and net profit of SAIL and TISCO for the years 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84 are given below :

(Rs. in crores)

	SAIL		TISCO	
	Sales Revenue	Net Profit (+)/Loss(—)	Sales Revenue	Net Profit
1981-82	2641.25	(+) 39.17	664.61	77.65
1982-83	3032.66	(—) 105.76	749.94	44.87
1983-84	3108.22	(—) 214.53	853.25	20.01

The exact financial performance of SAIL for 1984-85 will be known after the accounts are closed but it is expected to make a profit.

Evasion of Excise Duty by Haryana Based Sheet Glass Works Company

5218. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate of anti-evasion of excise duty Department has recently detected a Haryana based sheet glass works company which allegedly evaded central excise duty to the tune of crores of rupees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any arrest have been made in this connection so far;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by Government against such excise duty evaders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b).

(c) The performance of SAIL is constantly reviewed by the Government and remedial actions are taken wherever necessary.

Yes, Sir. A case of alleged evasion of central excise duty through under-valuation has been detected by the Directorate of Anti Evasion (Central Excise) during raids conducted on M/s. Haryana Sheet Glass Limited, Haryana. Incriminating records were seized. The revenue estimated to have been evaded is about Rs. 5 crores.

(c) and (d). No arrest has been made so far as investigations are in progress.

(e) On completion of investigation action under the provisions of Central Excise law will be taken for adjudication of the case.

Award of Central Assistance for Tribal Areas by Eighth Finance Commission

5219. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Eighth Finance Commission awarded Central assistance for Tribal areas, grant-in-aid for upgradation of standard of administration in tribal areas, upgradation of health and education in the country;

(b) if so, the awards in details and the schemes and programmes of which the assistance is to be provided;

(c) whether the concerned Ministries have prepared the guidelines and communicated to the States/Union Territories to obtain the proposals from them to quantify the funds; and

(d) if so, the details of the guidelines and the total funds to be provided to the States during the financial year 1985-86, Ministry-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The Eighth Finance Commission recommended grants-in-aid to certain States amounting to Rs. 967.33 crores for 1984-89 for upgradation of standards of administration in various sectors. A statement-I showing

the details of schemes and programmes for which grants-in-aid have been recommended for upgradation of standards of administration of tribal areas, health and education sectors, is attached.

(c) and (d). An Empowered Committee consisting of representatives of the Ministries concerned with sector for which grants have been recommended by the Eighth Finance Commission for upgradation of standards of administration was constituted in the Finance Ministry. The Committee finalised the guidelines for preparation of the Schemes which were communicated to the States. Gist of the guidelines issued is given in statement-II attached. Rs. 296.41 crores was provided in the Budget for 1985-86 in the Finance Ministry's demands for grants for disbursement to the States for all sectors covered by the Commission's scheme of upgradation of standards of administration.

Statement I

The grants-in-aid recommended by the Eighth Finance Commission for Education, Health and Tribal Administrations in States referred to in answer to parts (a) and (b) of Lok Sabha Question No. 5219 for 3-5-85

(Rs. lakhs)

Sector	Amount of grant recommended for 1984-89
1	2
1. TRIBAL ADMINISTRATION :	
(i) Payment of compensatory allowance to staff posted in tribal areas	2409.00
(ii) Housing units for staff posted in Tribal Areas	3260.40
(iii) Capital outlay for providing infra- structure facilities in villages	4050.00
	<hr/>
Total	9719.40
	<hr/>
2. HEALTH :	
(i) Rural allowance to doctors	1762.20
(ii) House Rent Allowance to doctors	405.58

1	2
(iii) Outlay for equipment for Public Health Centres	391.60
(iv) Housing Units for doctors in rural areas	3847.09
	<hr/>
Total :	6406.47
	<hr/>

3. EDUCATION :

(i) Additional teachers for primary

Schools

6937.01

(ii) Buildings for primary schools

16439.40

Total 23376.41

Statement-II

GIST of Guidelines Issued by the Ministry of Finance

The plans of action formulated by the State Governments should—

(a) conform to the pattern contemplated by the Finance Commission for utilisation of the upgradation grants (for example, the schemes should be designed to provide facilities at the grass-root level in various sectors and not for improving the facilities at higher echelons);

(b) lay stress on backward areas and weaker sections of society (not less than 2/3rd of the provisions be made in non-municipal areas and minimum 10 per cent of the outlay be earmarked for weaker sections like scheduled castes/tribes);

(c) be drawn up both in financial and physical terms in sufficient details including the nature of the expenditure proposed, the norms adopted, the latest unit cost, location of the work, plinth area, availability of sites, etc. (so as to be meaningful and give *inter-alia*, the anticipated annual phasing of the expenditure over the four years 1985-89);

(d) display the broad details of the existing facilities, facilities likely to be created on the basis of the works already in progress and additional facilities intended to be created so that the goals to be achieved can be identified;

(e) be drawn up taking into account—

- (i) the capacity of the State Public Works Department and other agencies (like State Housing Board, Police Housing Board, Cooperative agencies, Rural engineering department, etc.) to execute the extra works together with normal load (it would be advantageous to involve multifarious agencies rather than a single agency for speedy execution);
- (ii) The availability of requisite trained technical personnel;
- (iii) availability of suitable sites for the programmes in 1985-86 and advance action proposed for land acquisition or for private purchase of land;
- (iv) the need for conservation of scarce materials and for keeping the cost as low as possible (use of local materials be encouraged);
- (v) the availability of infrastructural facilities like approach roads, sewer lines, storm water drains, street light, etc. (action to provide these if not there already, may be taken by the State Governments simultaneously so that houses when ready have all these facilities);

- (vi) the basic requirements of the beneficiaries (*e.g.* the houses should have proper smoke-outlets or smokeless chulahs);

(f) provide for an effective system of regular reporting and monitoring of the physical and financial progress;

(g) built-in-checks for containing time over-runs and cost over-runs.

Meeting of Stock Exchange Officials

5220. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Controller of Capital Issues had called an emergency meeting of Stock Exchange officials on April 7 to consider crisis situation in stock market;

(b) if so, the decisions taken at the meeting; and

(c) whether these decisions had any impact on the crisis situation in stock market subsequently ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The Joint Secretary (Investment) and Controller of Capital Issues had called a meeting of the President/Executive Directors of four major Stock Exchanges at Calcutta, Bombay, Ahmedabad and Delhi on 7th April, 1985 to consider the stock market situation. The main decisions taken at the meeting are given below :

- (i) The Stock Exchanges at Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Ahmedabad (which are operating the system of trading in specified shares) will impose minimum daily margin of 3% on purchases and sales on gross basis on all specified shares.
- (ii) The Stock Exchanges will impose minimum daily margin of 10% on purchases and 3% on sales on volatile scrips included in the list of specified shares.
- (iii) Variations in daily margins as well as other actions taken by the regional Stock Exchanges on any

specified shares will immediately be notified to the other stock Exchanges and they will follow the same policies.

- (iv) The Stock Exchanges will continue to impose ad-hoc margins, additional margins and ad-hoc deposits to control the volume of trading and movement of prices.

- (v) The above measures will be valid for one month beginning from 8th April, 1985, after which another meeting with the representatives of the Stock Exchanges to review the stock market position will be held.

These decisions had an immediate favourable impact on the stock market situation. Subsequently, however, there has been a general increase in prices of securities recently. However, Government is keeping a constant watch on the stock market situation.

Companies Listed of the Stock Exchange

5221. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of public limited companies in the private sector and their aggregate paid-up capital;

(b) the number of these companies which are listed on the Stock Exchange and their aggregate capital;

(c) whether it is a fact that the companies listed on the Stock Exchange, the shares of only a small proportion are active; and

(d) if so, the purpose served by listing the securities of companies whose shares though quoted, are seldom traded ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The total number of non-Government public limited companies limited by shares at work in India as at the end of 1983-84 and 1984 and their aggregate paid-up capital, are as under :

At the end of	No.	Paid-up capital (Rs. in crores)
31-3-1984	12,526	4,058.7
31-12-1984	13,608	4,243.4

(b) as per the information available with the Bombay Stock Exchange, 3883 companies are listed on the 13 recognised Stock Exchanges in the country as on 31st December, 1984. This includes those Government companies whose shares also listed on Stock Exchanges. Information regarding the aggregate paid-up capital of listed public limited companies in the private sector is not separately maintained.

(c) and (d). The securities of all listed companies are not always traded actively. The extent of trading in a listed security depends mainly on the investors who are guided by various factors in this regard. One of the purposes of listing of securities of a company on Stock Exchanges is to provide the facility of trading in these securities to the investing public. In case the listed shares of some companies are seldom traded, this should not be construed to imply that there is no purpose in listing of securities on Stock Exchange. Even in such securities, the interest of the investors may develop at any time arising out of various factors and accordingly may be traded actively.

Foreign Exchange Credit from Japan for Hazira Fertilizer Project

5222. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had arranged foreign exchange credit from Japan amounting to about Yen 20 billion from Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) for building up Hazira Fertilizer Project under a cooperative sector;

(b) whether the cooperative has failed to utilise the same assistance in Yen currency properly; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof and action being proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI

JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). During the year 1978-79 the Government of Japan extended a loan of Yen 20 billion for implementation of the ammonia plants part of the Hazira Fertilizer Project of the Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited. The loan agreement with the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) of Japan (the official loan giving agency of the Government of Japan) was signed on the 7th May, 1981. The loan amount is to be used within a period of five years from the date of signing of the loan agreement. The closing date of the OECF loan is 7th May, 1986. All the items of equipment covered under OECF financing have been procured or ordered except for some small items of equipment. The Co-operative was able to take advantage of recessionary conditions in the international market at the time of tendering to obtain extremely favourable prices and therefore, an amount of Yen 10 billion approximately cut of Yen 20 billion loan is surplus to their requirement.

Raising of Loan Limit under DRI

5223. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the task force appointed by Finance Ministry has recommended merger of the Differential Rates of Interest Scheme with the Integrated Rural Development Programme;

(b) if so, whether the task force has also favoured raising the loan limit to individual borrowers under DRI from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 7,500;

(c) if so, the other suggestions made by the task force; and

(d) whether the Union Government have accepted the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). The recommendations contained in the Report of the Task Force which was set up to examine and make recommendations on, *inter-alia*, the various Provisions of the Differential Rate of Interest Scheme and the modifications, if any, considered necessary, are under the examination of the Government.

**Settlement of Pension cases of Pre-31
March, 1979 Pensioners**

5224. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state how Government propose to settle revision of pension cases in respect of such pre-31 March, 1979 pensioners who were not eligible to exercise their option in favour of ad hoc formula and whose revision of pension is to be done with reference to their service records only and their service records are not available with the Director of Central Audit or the concerned Department ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : Necessary instructions prescribing the procedure of dealing with such caacs were issued by the Ministry of Finance on 15-6-1984 (copy attached).

No. M. 23022/1/83 MF/CGA/(Vol. II)/250

Ministry of Finance

Department of Expenditure

Controller General of Accounts

7th Floor, Lok Nayak Bhavan

New Delhi.

Dated : 15-6-84

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject : Application of Liberalised Pension Formula to pre-31-3-79 pensioners-implementation of the judgement of the Supreme Court.

It has been brought to the notice of this Ministry that in certain cases, some Accounts Officers are finding it difficult to effect revision of pensionary benefits with reference to service records, in terms of this Department's OM No. F.1 (3)-EV/83 dated 22-10-1983, due to non-availability of service records. The matter has been examined in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and the Establishment Division of this Ministry, and the following guidelines are prescribed in respect of cases of retirement prior to the date of departmentalisation of accounts of the ministry/Deptt./Office in which the employee was serving before retirement.

2. If the Accounts Office file containing the original calculation etc. of pensionary

entitlements of on officer (largely Group 'A' and a few Group 'B' officers in whose cases the revision is to be effected with reference to their service records) is not traceable, parallel record of the type mentioned below, may be relied upon by the Accounts Officer for revising the pensionary entitlement :—

- (i) where the treasury, on which initial payment on retirement was desired by the pensioner, fell in the jurisdiction of another Accountant General, the A.C. who determined the pension was required to issue to the former, according to the procedure earlier in vogue, a Special Seal Authority, supported by details in form 25, along with an audit encasement, on the basis of which the former Accountant General issued a P. P. O. on the treasury in terms of the then C.S.R. 920(7). Similar was the procedure, if the Section in an A.G.'s Office issuing the P. P. O. was different from the Section working out the entitlement. In such cases, the Accountant General undertaking the revision can call for a copy of form 25 of the C. S. Rs. or the details contained therein, from the Accountants General/the other Section in the same A.G.'s Office which issued the P. P. O.
- (ii) the pension sanctioning authorities also used to receive such details as qualifying service, emoluments during the 36 months preceding retirement, the amount of pension etc. due, from the Accountant General. Also, in cases where pensioners had rendered non-gazetted service, the Service Book (returned to the Department after settlement of pension case) would also contain an endorsement regarding the total qualifying service accepted for pension. etc. That record can be obtained by the Accountant General for revision of pension.
- (iii) History of Service (upto 30-6-56)/Service Cards also contain the total non-gazetted service rendered at the beginning of gazetted service, apart from full details of gazetted service.

3. However, in cases where the requisite information is not forth coming from any of the records mentioned above inspite of best efforts made by the Accounts Officer and a dead end has been reached the Head of an accounting organisation undertaking the revision, viz. the Accountant General/Director of Audit and the Chief Controller of Accounts/Controller of Accounts who are successors to the erstwhile Chief Pay and Accounts Officer, Works Housing, Supply and Food and Agriculture, as the case may be, may permit, with his personal approval, settlement of the revision of the pension in implementation of the judgement of the Supreme Court, on the basis of an affidavit to be obtained from the pensioner on plain paper, containing a declaration from the pensioner about his last pay drawn, period for which it was drawn, scale of pay, length of qualifying service, original pension fixed, amount commuted, date of joining service and date of retirement, supported by whatever documentary evidence that is available with the pensioner. At the foot of the affidavit, the pensioner shall make and subscribe to a declaration as to the truth of the statement made by him/her. As a further safeguard, and with a view to cross-checking the correctness of the data furnished by the pensioner, the Accounts Officer undertaking the revision on the basis of the affidavit, shall work out the pensionary entitlement with reference to the rules and orders which obtained at the time of retirement of the pensioner making the affidavit, and which governed the pension case of the pensioner at that time, and see that it tallies with the amount of pension being drawn by the pensioner before revision; on the data furnished by the pensioner being found to pass this test, the Accounts Officer may proceed to revise the position on that basis.

4. The Head of the accounting organisation shall also furnish to the Establishment Division of this Ministry (with copies to this organisation by name to the undersigned) by 1st August, 1984, and 31st December, 1984, statements showing details of cases settled on this basis, indicating, *Inter alia* :

- (1) Name of the pensioner
- (2) Date of retirement
- (3) Post held before retirement

- (4) Old rate of pension
- (5) New rate of pension.

Sd/-

(M. K. JAIN)

Dy. Controller General of Accounts.
To

1. The Controller and Auditor General of India, New Delhi (with 50 copies for circulation to Accountants General/Directors of Audit).
2. The Chief Controller of Accounts, Deptt. of Supply, New Delhi.
3. The Chief Controller of Accounts, Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi.
4. The Chief Controller of Accounts, Ministry of Works and Housing, New Delhi.
5. The Controller of Accounts, Deptt. of Food, New Delhi.
6. Dy. Controller of Accounts, Deptt. of Rehabilitation, New Delhi.

Export Oriented Industries set up during Sixth Plan Period

5225. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a policy decision to establish more number of export-oriented industries;

(b) if so, the total number of export oriented industries set up during the Sixth Plan period;

(c) the time when these industries are expected to start commercial production; and

(d) the steps taken to expedite the implementation of such projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c). Under the Scheme of 100% export-oriented units, announced on 31st December, 1980 there is no restriction on the number of export oriented units to be established in the country. So far, 57 units approved during 1981, 1982 and 1983 have commenced production and exports. Another 65 units,

already approved, are expected to commence production and exports during the year 1985.

(d) A specially constituted Board of Approvals for 100% export-oriented units considers all proposals for setting up of such units. To enable the units to commence production at the earliest, Government of India have extended facilities such as supply of levy cement, iron and steel on priority for construction, time-bound clearance of applications by the RBI etc.

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Petroleum, 1985-86

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Petroleum for 1985-86. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-835/85].

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : Some of the papers published from Hyderabad have reported that India is developing Hydrogen bomb. We demand a statement from the Defence Minister.

MR. SPEAKER : Such things come daily. How can I take it up? You give me notice. I will find out the facts.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : It is a very important thing. For next week I have given notice of an item. This is the first time, I believe, that our indigenous research and development in defence matters is being opened for foreign scrutiny. An agreement has been made with a partner of the NATO alliance, namely, Italy for joint research in defence matters. This has never been done before. These people are going to be allowed to look into our R and D in defence. I protest strongly against it. He should make a statement in the House.

MR. SPEAKER : I will find out.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY (Buxar) : Through a call attention notice we have

brought to your notice a very serious development. A radio network, a clandestine radio network has started functioning from somewhere, from some undisclosed place in Europe and anti-India propaganda is being made by the so-called Khalistanis. It is operating from somewhere. It is said that it is being organised from New York.

MR. SPEAKER : I will find out. First I have to get the facts.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : Sir, here in this book let the CPM is stated to have no Lady Member. Statistics have been given as to how many Lady Members each Party has. It is said that the CPM has no Lady Member. But here is our Lady Member present. What is this?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : It is a breach of privilege.

MR. SPEAKER : It is an error. The corrigendum is being issued. This was a mistake.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN (Idukki) : We have given a calling attention regarding moratorium on the Cochin Bank....

MR. SPEAKER : I will look into it.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will you allow a discussion, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER : We will see.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara) : You do not listen to us. Yesterday also, I had told you that I have given notice for a half-an-hour discussion.

Nationalised banks are recovering an amount from the farmers, which is five times the amount of loan given to them.

MR. SPEAKER : They are recovering.

(Interruptions)

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Please admit the notice....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I agree with you. It is your luck if the notice gets priority....(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla) :

You have not accepted my adjournment motion or calling attention notice. Mass rigging has taken place in Ladakh. This is the forum...

MR. SPEAKER : This is not the forum.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : **

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed. It does not concern this House. Whatever he says will not form part of the record.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY (Nalgonda) : Severe drought conditions are prevailing in Andhra Pradesh. The State Government has asked for central assistance. Only Rs. 54 crores have been released so far as against Rs. 369 crores asked for by the State Government. I request early release of the amount asked for by the State Government.

MR. SPEAKER : I told you yesterday and I am telling you again. I cannot take up all the subjects at one go. I am taking one by one.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Soz, if you listen to me for one minute, you will understand the position. If you follow the rules and the procedure of the Parliament, you would not have raised this question, because yesterday or day before yesterday, some time back, another question was raised and I gave the same reply. I am helpless; I cannot do anything.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot do anything. Why don't you realise it ?

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : It is according to the democratic procedure. You cannot do it. It is only the Election Commission which could look into it or a petition...

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : No, not allowed. Now, papers to be laid.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—Contd.

[English]

Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, 1985-86

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Environment and Forests for 1985-86. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-836/85].

Notifications under Coinage Act, 1906 and Customs Act, 1962

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 21 of the Coinage Act, 1906 :

(i) The Coinage (Standard Weight and Remedy of the Commemorative Coins of One Hundred Rupees (Containing Silver 50 per cent Copper 40 per cent, Ten Rupees, Two Rupees, and Fifty Paise, containing Copper 75 per cent and Nickel 25 per cent, coined for "Reserve Bank of India—Golden Jubilee-1935-85") Rules, 1985 published in Notification No. SO 293 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th April, 1985.

(ii) The Coinage (Standard Weight and Remedy of the Coins of Five Paise of square shape with rounded corners containing 3.5 to 4 per cent Magnesium and Remainder Aluminium) Rules, 1984, (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S O 643 in Gazette of India dated the 16th February, 1985. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-837/85]

(2) A copy of Notification No. GSR374(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in

Gazette of India dated the 23rd April, 1985 together with an explanatory memorandum extending the validity of Notification No. G S R 366 (E) dated the 17th April, 1985 upto the 28th April, 1985, under section 41 of the Finance Act, 1979. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-838/85]

(3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 :

(i) G S R 370 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th April, 1985 together with an explanatory note regarding exemption to goods when imported into India for the industrial plants or projects (other than power projects including gas turbine power projects and fertilizer projects) from the duty of customs as in excess of the amount calculated at the rate of 20 per cent *ad velorem*.

(ii) G S R 3719 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th April, 1985 together with an explanatory note regarding exemption to goods when imported into India for power projects (including gas turbine power projects) from the whole of the duty of customs leviable thereon.

(iii) G S R 376 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th April, 1985 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding rates of exchange for conversion of Australian Dollars into Indian currency or *vice-versa*. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-839/85]

(4) A copy of Notification No. G S R 375 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th April, 1985 together with an explanatory memorandum prescribing effective rates of basis excise duty on gases falling under Item No. 14H of the Central Excise Tariff in supersession of Notification No. 38/85-CE dated the 17th March, 1985, issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-840/85].

(5) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation, Bombay, for the year ended the 31st

December, 1984 along with Audited Accounts, under sub-section (2) of section 32 of the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation Act, 1961. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-841/85].

(6) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 52 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 :

(i) The Banking Companies (Nomination) Rules, 1985 published in Notification No. S O 264 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th March, 1985.

(ii) The Banking Companies (Period of Preservation of Records) Rules, 1985 published in Notification No. S O 265 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th March, 1985.

(iii) The Co-operative Banks (Nomination) Rules, 1985 published in Notification No. S O 266 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th March, 1985.

(iv) The Co-operative Banks (Period of Preservation of Records) Rules, 1985 published in Notification No. S O 267 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th March, 1985.

(v) The Banking Regulation (Companies) Amendment Rules, 1985 published in Notification No. S O 268 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th March, 1985.

(vi) The Banking Regulation (Cooperative Societies) Amendment Rules, 1985 published in Notification No. S O 269 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th March, 1985. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-842/85].

Audit Reports, Annual Reports and Review of the Coffee Board for the year 1980-81 and 1983-84

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A.
SANGMA) : I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Audit Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Accounts of the Coffee Board, Bangalore, for the year 1980-81 (Pool Fund).

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-843/85].

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the coffee Board, Bangalore, for the year 1983-84.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Coffee Board, Bangalore, for the year 1983-84.

(4) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-844/85].

(5) A copy of the Audit Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Accounts of the Coffee Board, Bangalore, for year 1983-84 (General Fund)..

(6) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-845/85].

Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Science and Technology for 1985-86

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Science and Technology for 1985-86.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): Sir, with your permission, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing Monday, the 6th May, 1985 will consist of :

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's order paper.

2. Discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants for 1985-86 under the control of the Ministry of Finance.

3. At 6.00 P.M. on Monday, the 6th May, 1985 submission to the vote of the House the Demands for Grants for 1985-86 in respect of the outstanding Ministries/Departments.

4. Introduction, consideration and passing of the Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 1985.

5. Consideration and Passing of the Finance Bill, 1985.

6. Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the Tea Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Sick Tea Units) Ordinance, 1985 and consideration and passing of the Bill in replacement thereof.

7. Consideration and passing of the High Court and Supreme Court judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1985.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the following item may please be included in the Business of the House for the next week announced by the hon. Minister of parliamentary Affairs :

"The Government have introduced crop insurance scheme for foodgrains and pulses but fruits and vegetables, which are affected by natural calamities the most have not been covered under this scheme. It is therefore, necessary that a discussion taken place in the House that this scheme should cover fruits and vegetables also.

12.08 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there had been no rains in Rajasthan last year and during the monsoon and winter and as a result the State is facing a drinking water crisis. In the desert districts of Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur of Rajasthan, the situation has deteriorated the most. Water is being supplied to certain villages by tankers.

But due to shortage of tankers, water is not supplied for more than one day in a week in some villages. In Delhi also there has been water crisis for the last one week. The water supply position is also not good in certain other parts of the country. Therefore, the matter should be included in the Business of the House for the next week for consideration.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : I request that the following two items may be included in the next week's Agenda :—

(1) The reported ropping of the project of constructing a new building in the National Library Campus at Belvedere, Calcutta. During the tenure of late Prime Minister's Government it was decided to construct a new building for greater accommodation in the National Library, Calcutta which is absolutely essential for running the Library with its rare collections effectively. The then Minister of Education laid the foundation stone for the same. But it is reported that the project has been cancelled by the present Government. It is essential that this decision be reversed.

(2) The Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. at Haldia, West Bengal, a Central Government Projects, is in dire disarray. If this situation is not reversed promptly, the workers will be unemployed and an important project for Haldia's future development will be seriously jeopardised.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneswar) : Sir, I give the notice of the following item to be included in the agenda of the next week's business of the House :

A serious danger is posed to India's freedom and security by Pakistan not only acquiring aircrafts capable of carrying and delivering nuclear arms but also by developing its own nuclear capability.

Moreover the Indian ocean area continues to be a major concern with the increase in naval and military presence of all big powers nuclear arms.

Though India remains always committed to peaceful uses of nuclear energy in the context of the recent rapid development on the nuclearisation of the sub-continent and also employment of nuclear arms both in the

land and seafront encircling us and for meeting the threat resulting therefrom there is no option left for India now but to go nuclear.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada) : Sir, I would like to suggest the following items for inclusion in the next week's business.

At present Parliament News are covered through 'Today in Parliament' in English and 'Sansad Sameeksha' in Hindi thereby serving the people who know English and Hindi languages only. The people who have no knowledge of English or Hindi are not given the information about the proceeding of Parliament. So translated version of 'Today in Parliament' or 'Sansad Sameeksha' can be broadcast during the days on which Parliament is in session by A.I.R and Door-darshan through the centres located in the States in respective regional languages thereby covering most of the population who can also have the benefit of knowing what is going on in the Parliament.

Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly has on 30th April, 1985 passed a resolution seeking for the dissolution of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Council with more than two thirds of the members of Assembly present and supporting the resolution. This is the second time for the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly to pass such resolution, the first being on 20th March, 1983. Though under Article 169 of the Constitution, the Government of India has the option to choose the time to introduce the necessary Bill in Parliament and it has also the discretion to accept or reject the resolution, I request the Union Government to initiate Legislation in Parliament for dissolution of Andhra Pradesh Legislative Council in this Session itself to respect the strong view of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Ghulam Azad to reply.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : Sir, the points mentioned by the hon. Members have been noted down and I will bring them to the notice of the Business Advisory Committee.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, we take up item 8 of the List of Business of the House.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL),
1985-86—Contd.

[English]

(i) Ministry of Social and Women's
Welfare—Contd.

SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA (Contai) : Sir, first of all, I support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare, I would also like to congratulate the Government for establishing a separate Ministry for the Women's welfare and particularly when it is the last year of Decade for the 'Women's Decade'. Sir, I would like to state that the social welfare and women's welfare are under the care of one Ministry. But my point is that women's welfare should not be only on the welfare side alone because when we want to have development of women in the country, only the welfare side alone will not help us in uplifting women in the society though welfare is needed. There was an act introduced in 1976 for equal wage to both men and women workers. In Government, of course, women are getting equal pay. But in others sectors, we find in most of the cases that women do not get equal wages along with men. Whenever you ask them, they will find some answer. The attitude is wrong. They do not want to give any preference, not only preference, but anything to women. As far as possible, they like to keep women apart. Women of our country are to a great extent deprived of the benefits envisaged for them in the Constitution. Most women are living as second class citizens and they are the victims of exploitation in one form or the other. They are exploited in the family, they are exploited in the society and they are exploited in the work place also. The number of women who get the opportunity to work is very insignificant. I will give one example. In 1971 Census, it was stated that 52.5 per cent of the able-bodied men-population is actually working. But only 13.8 per cent of the able-bodied women population is found to be working. In the 1981 Census we find the number has increased. But we must remember that in 1981 Census, the definition is changed. There are marginal workers and main workers. It is quite interesting. Main workers are 45.9 millions and marginal workers are 20.3 millions. Marginal workers are those who work occasionally and not

regularly. In 1961, the ratio of women workers per 1000 men was 525. But Sir, it is surprising to find that in 1971 the ratio came down to 210. But it has slightly increased in the 1981 Census.

I would like to say that in the working places women do not have usually any welfare facilities. particularly for working mothers, pregnant mothers and for the children of the working mothers. In this connection, I like to point out that women need proper accommodation. I know that Government allots some money for their hostel accommodation. But I also know that that money is not being utilised fully by voluntary organisations. I am not going to that point part. What I am saying is that all working women cannot stay in hostels so other types of accommodation are required for them. I plead that there should be some arrangement made by the Government. The ministry may discuss this matter with the different Departments and Ministries and see that there should be proper accommodation for working women as far as possible near the their place of work.

Sir, in many places when one women is released or if she resigns, usually a man is taking the place if that women. So, you see the attitude. I do not like to say much about it. This is a new Ministry and I do not like now to say much. But I would like to say that a National Policy on Women should be introduced. Unless and until there is a national policy on women, it will not be possible for the Ministry to work according to its thinking. I would like to point out that unless creches for children along with primary schools are arranged one it will not be possible for women to send their children particularly girls to schools.

On the social welfare side, I do not like to say much, but I would like to point out that we are spending quite a lot of money on it, and there is a socio-economic programme also. But I would like to say that it is not a question of how much money we have spent or released, or how many women are trained for different socio-economic programmes. Our point is : how many women are fit enough to earn their living. That is very important, because we can spend the money, train them and they can join any establishment; but after a year, many of them do not get enough

opportunities to work, may be for various reasons so, I would like the Minister to look into this particular point, so that a real assessment is made.

My last point is that unless there are a large number of creches throughout the country, our women will not be free. It will not be possible for women to really come out, and to send their children to schools. With these words, I support the Demands for the Ministry. I am very glad that a Ministry of Women's Welfare has been established. I wish that gradually, more and more money is given to this Ministry.

SHRIMATI PREMALABAI CHAVAN
(Karad) : Sir, Thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on these Demands. Many people have taken part in this debate already, and given valuable suggestions.

I am very glad that this Ministry has started working vigorously, *i.e.* to look into the difficulties of ladies and children. I am sure there are many good laws already, but I regret that they have not been implemented fully. Though respected late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi had brought this 20-point programme specially for the development of the country, and for the advancement of women and children we see that in the villages and rural areas, its implementation is Nil. It has not been implemented seriously. There are many laws to protect the interests of women, and to protect them from harassment which is going on in villages and urban areas.

This subject is not related only to one Department. So there should be coordination between Ministries such as Finance Education, Social Welfare, Home and Labour, and all these Ministries should act together. It will be good if they increased the funds allotted for women's development. They are not adequate now. We have first to request that this amount should be increased. In villages, there are so many arrangements where a girl can get education, but the funds are not there. High School are not running properly. The payment to the teachers is less. Our programme is suffering because of lack of funds.

In Maharashtra, the percentage of education is more, we all know about it. Some social agencies, some honourable persons who are very much interested in women

welfare, they have social organisations all over Maharashtra. They are doing a good job on these striving young people and raising funds. This can be done much better if the Minister increases fund to the social organisations and see that the laws which are made by our government are implemented. There is a Child Marriage Act. This is very old. In villages, nobody implements it and the child marriages are going on. Even Anti-Dowry Bill is under consideration. We had a long tour throughout the country for finding out the causes and the response to this Bill. We are educating Young generation, but we see that educated ones demand more dowry. This way, education about Anti-Dowry scheme is very essential and I am sure through this Ministry we can do much better.

Then there are labour problems. According to the law, equal payment should be given to women, but it is not being implemented; and in villages, in rural areas, women are getting less payment, than men. So, I request the hon. Minister to see that equal payment should be made to both. When we talk of equal status for women, we could do it through our laws; and the Ministry should implement all these things for the welfare of women and children.

The Health Ministry and the Home Ministry should taken more care against atrocities on women when they go to police station. Much care is not taken when they go there and it is not with that much zeal that a women goes there. They neglect the appeals of the women. I request the hon. Minister to see that the Home Ministry also should take more interest and see that justice is done to the harassed women. So, I think, if this coordination is there, then our lady MPs in the Parliament, who are really striving for this great cause of the country will help us to help our women folk and our country also.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South) : The Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare is to safeguard the provisions of the fundamental rights and also the directive principles enshrined in our Constitution. For the welfare of women, lot of schemes have been formulated. What has been done as compared to what has to be done is really very small.

As far as physically handicapped persons are concerned, we are only paying lip sympathy towards them. Fortunately, not only the government but also the society has discarded them I know about it as I happen to represent two organisations of the physically handicapped Bangalore. They are doing good work for them. This is my experience with them because I have moved with them. These physically handicapped persons are really better than the normal persons if they are given proper training. I have been able to get them many jobs in many places. Many of them work in some factories; their performance is excellent, because they can concentrate better on the work assigned to them. Many of them have been given national awards.

There is a Central Government circular—not only a Central Government circular but also in the State Governments there is a circular—suggesting the earmarking of certain percentage of jobs for the physically handicapped persons. But it is observed more in breach than in practice. The Government must be very strict in regard to this. The hon. Minister must give strict instructions not only to the various Ministries but also to the State Governments requesting them to implement it in full.

There is an institute for the deaf and dumb in Bangalore. I would request the hon. Minister to visit that institute. They are given training to 60 to 80 mutes, for about one to one and a half years. When they come out of that institute they will get some jobs. My appeal to the Government is to see that the physically handicapped should not feel that they are a burden to the society, nor should the society feel that they are a burden.

I have got only one more point to make. In this men-dominated society we are not being fair to women we are not providing the proper facilities to them. I know that the Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare has got some schemes, I have seen them. If you want to raise the status of women, you should implement them properly. Also, the other day we had a debate here on the status of women. It is the duty of men to see that women are properly looked after. My only suggestion to this august House and

the Government is that we must look to this problem carefully. What I mean is that we must see how a large number of women are returned to legislatures and Parliament. In Karnataka after the Ramakrishna Hegde Government came into existence 20 per cent of the seats have been reserved for women. In the City of Bangalore—which I represent—out of 87 Municipal Corporators 18 are women. The Chairman was a woman and two women Deputy Mayors were there. Various posts are also held by women. They are doing excellent work. I have been a Mayor there, I am talking from my experience. So, I say that we should have more women in these institutions so that we can have a better understanding of their problems. I do not know how many are there exactly here in Lok Sabha but I do not think that it is more than five per cent. I do not know whether constitutionally we can reserve more seats for them in the Parliament and legislature.

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI : I want to ask the hon. Member what the Janata Government has done there.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down, Madam.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : I welcome her question. I am not speaking of Congress Party or Janata Party. I am suggesting to all the political parties. We must give more representation to women while making selection of candidates for the Assembly and Parliament. I would even say that we should make some reservation by providing for it in the Constitution. The political parties should see to it that at least 20% to 30% women are returned to Assemblies and Parliament. These are the suggestions I want to make and I do not want to repeat what I have already said or what others have said. I request the hon. Minister to consider reservation of seats for women and to give them a better status.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shrimati Basava Rajeswari.

[Translation]

*SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI (Bellary) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I take great pride in supporting the demands for

grants pertaining to the Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare.

Eminent Ministers and experienced elders are in charge of this ministry. Therefore I am sure that they can solve the problems and make commendable achievements. A separate Ministry has been set up for social and women's welfare and for this I wholeheartedly congratulate our Hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

Most of the educated women dislike breast feeding. Unfortunately this trend is on the increase abnormally. This leads to the gradual deterioration of children's health. In fact last year World Health Organization has given a statement reiterating the importance of breast feeding. But in our country women have not realised the vital role played by breast feeding in the improvement of the child's health. Therefore it should be our earnest endeavour to inspire and encourage our women to compulsorily follow breast feeding.

The various problems of children's development are as follows. High incidence of mortality, mal-nutrition and morbidity in early childhood, destitution among children who are likely to be delinquent or vagrant or beggars may continue unless provided with maintenance educational and vocational training for their development and for becoming productive citizens. Children of working mothers in unorganised sectors may become victims of society's neglect and abuse unless provided with day care services.

Our Ministry has several programmes to solve the problems of children.

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Project is working very satisfactorily throughout the country. It is helping the children in their education, health discipline and in other aspects of development. There are various schemes for the welfare of women also. But the number of projects existing today is not at all sufficient. About 600 projects were sanctioned during the sixth five year plan. I urge the Hon. Minister to have more schemes especially in areas and slum areas of the cities for the emancipation of the down trodden children. For this great cause voluntary organisations have to come forward.

Due to poverty, illiteracy and other

factors many children have become pampers. There are some centres which look after such deprived children. But they are all in cities. Therefore I demand that at every district level such homes have to be set up to look into the problems of destitute children. If this not done, the suffering children of today may become a dangerous generation of tomorrow. Our Govt. should not hesitate to spend any amount of money for establishing such homes in all districts. Our younger generation is capable of repaying the investment made by our country in many forms as it grows. It is the duty of the society to help the all round development of children.

In our country there are no proper training centres in this field. The persons who are dealing with the children should know the minds of children. The talent can be acquired only through proper training. I have several such training centres in many foreign countries. Persons from our country should be deputed to such countries to get training.

There are many grievances of widows in our country. Many widows have lost their lands under land Reform Act. If they are not provided proper compensation how can those widows look after their children? In some states arrangements have been made for payment of lump sum amounts to such widows. I urge the Govt. of India to issue such guidelines to all the states to make payment of lump sum amounts as compensation to such widows. It would be a great service on the part of the Govt. if they can wipe out the tears of these widows.

While speaking on the demands for grants of the ministry of Industry I had mentioned about the help to be given by the Govt. to women to start small scale industries. They should be provided with power, land, loan without interest etc. Women also can come forward in the Society like men. The Govt. has to provide all possible incentives to them.

In the agricultural field women are serving better than men. Women have worked hard and made the country self sufficient in the production of food grains. But I am pained to say that she is not getting equal wages with men. She should be given equal wages. She must be given priority in the fields of electronics, computer science, sericulture, seed multiplication etc.

In Karnataka unfortunately the 'Devadasi' system is still prevailing. The state Govt. has passed a legislation for the abolition of this system. Law alone does not come to the rescue of women. I came to know the various reasons which force poor women to take up Devadasi system. When I was the Minister for Social Welfare, I studied the issue and tried to end it. I have read that some people in Vijayanagar empire started this system to be of some use to the Military personnel in the name of God. Rehabilitation programmes in this respect are not satisfactory. This system is still persisting in industrial areas. Therefore women have to be protected from this evil system. Survey has to be conducted and the victims have to be rehabilitated.

Dowry system and child marriage are the other evils of our society. In our country, especially in the rural areas child marriage is taking place on a large scale and in a grand manner.

Divorce is also becoming easy. Man divorces his wife who is ignorant of legislation and law and marries another woman. This kind of exploitation also should be rooted out from our society immediately. Stringent measures should be taken to put an end to child labour. Some girls are brought from the neighbouring states for some illicit purposes. This has to be stopped forthwith our Govt. should see that all such systems are eradicated. Our Govt. should also manure our culture and bring up a new generation which would be brave and prove to be good citizens. Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity and with these words I conclude my speech.

SHRIMATI SUNDARWATI NAWAL PRABHAKAR (Karol Bagh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare.

The Minister of Social Welfare and the Department of Social Welfare have done a lot for women but still many of their problems remain to be solved which will take considerable time. We have these problems everywhere in India but they are more rampant in rural areas where the women folk is illiterate. As a first step, higher secondary schools should be opened in all the villages to ameliorate the lot of these women.

Today, many of the women do not feel the need for education and are not aware of the facilities available therefor. They do not know what is happening in their country as also other details about the country. The most important thing is that a large number of primary schools should be opened in the country and the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe women should be given education in those schools. The women in villages go out for work during the day and remain indoors in the morning and evening. Such arrangements should be made as would ensure education of these women.

Secondly, I would like to point out that poor women in villages either work on their own fields or go for work elsewhere. When they go out for work their children play in streets in mud or under the trees. Government should set up some centres where these children can be looked after, where they can get education and where their development can be ensured? Such centres exist at some places in cities, but no such facility has been provided in villages. I shall request that such centres should be set up for the education and development of these children. Their health should also be taken care of the parents are very poor and cannot afford medicines and doctor's fee in the case of the illness of their children. Dispensaries must be opened to provide medical care to them.

Some law has been made to safeguard the interest of widows. The Civil Code is there. But I would like to point out that these laws have not so far been enforced. They are flouted. No attention is paid towards this.

Similarly, anti-dowry law is there. A very sad situation is arising today out of dowry cases. We read daily in the newspapers that a woman has immolated herself or that some woman has been burnt to death. I would urge the Ministry of Social Welfare to ensure implementation of this law. Some sort of news item is seen in newspapers daily about the victims of dowry. Something should be done in this regard.

I would like to point out that Government are spending a sizeable amount of money on the welfare of women but I do not know where that money goes. I am one of the Members of the Social Welfare Board and I know that various types of grants are

given for improving the economic condition of women. They are given sewing machines which remain idle and rust gets formed on them. I would suggest that training centres should be set up to impart formal complete training to such women so that they are able to earn their livelihood by serving clothes for the common man. Some of the women, who know a little of tailoring, can sew only ordinary kurtas or underwears, etc. out of which they cannot earn their livelihood. Arrangement should therefore, be made to impart full training to them in tailoring.

Many centres have been opened and more are being opened for small children. Government supply *Dalia, Khichri*, sugar, etc. to these centres for distribution among the children but they are not supplied to children in full. Whatever is given to them is given as if they are beggars. Arrangements should be made to ensure proper supply of all these things to children. What happens today is that all these things disappear from these centres.

What I mean to say is that our Government have done a lot and are doing still more. But the implementing machinery does not function properly. Government should see to all these things so that more and more facilities can be provided to the poor women, and they can be taken care of. Similarly, poor children should be looked after properly so that they become good citizens.

At the same time, poor expectant mothers should also be looked after properly. The programmes meant for pregnant women have been lagging behind in villages. The fund or assistance provided for them by the Social Welfare Board does not precolate to them. I shall cite an example. The men and women in a village are given a wage of Rs. 7/- per day per person—which might have been raised now, but the person who disburses wages to them and marks their attendance, deducts a sum of Rs. 2/- out of Rs. 7/- and gives them Rs. 5/- only per head. Such type of treatment is meted out to the poor women. It is a grave crime to make such deduction from their hard earned wage. Hence, I would like to impress that equal wages should be given to women and they should have the same respect as is shown to menfolk.

This aspect needs special attention in the villages. The matter should be looked into. I think the person, who marks attendance, must be earning hundreds of rupees in this manner and the poor women, for whom our government are spending so much money, are subjected to such type of maltreatment and to such grave injustice.

With these words, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on these demands for grants.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : The other day during the discussion on Women's Decade we had at length discussed the situation of changing inside our country regarding women's condition in various fields, political, social and economic and also children's welfare. Today because of want of time I shall not cover the same ground. Only I will say that very much remains to be done. That was very clear from that discussion. Today I shall be specific on this grant itself.

While regarding the annual report I welcome the fact that the Ministry has promised that they are going in for evolving a new policy and on the basis of various reports of the Working Groups on certain aspects of the social welfare programmes, they have already found out certain areas which should be added. I would have been happier if we would have had some outline of what the new areas are that the Ministry has already found. If they were given, then we would have been in a better position.

In any case my first request to our hon. Minister is that really a new policy totally covering all the aspects of woman's life is very essential and I would only request that while this new policy will be evolved, I hope that not only the women Members of Parliament but also the All India Women's Organisations who are active in this field should be consulted for evolving this new policy. I feel that in the absence of a policy like this, an all enveloping policy, the Social Welfare Ministry's work is really based on absolute ad hocism. Had you looked into this annual report, you would have seen a plethora of schemes. Absolutely there is no dearth of schemes. It seems that from time to time some bright ideas struck somebody, so cer-

tain schemes have come. Afterwards some new international developments take place and some other schemes are added. I feel that first of all at the moment there are many schemes with little, little allotment for that. Probably many of these will need serious rethinking to reorganise those schemes to give a better benefit from the schemes. For want of time I cannot illustrate all. I will illustrate one or two at the end.

About the schemes that are now in operation I would like to make a few suggestions with regard to certain schemes which are now being followed. For example, the socio-economic programme that is there under the Social Welfare Board. Grant is given to voluntary organisations. Here in this it seems to me that the allocations which are made are very unreal. For example, after a lump sum grant, one month's working capital for the raw materials, etc. is given to a voluntary organisation to guarantee employment for 25 women. I feel that with one month recurring capital it is really impossible for any voluntary organisation to have the market, to find out the place, etc. So those voluntary organisations who have a lot of money may be able to make good use of it, but really to make it purposeful, this needs some real re-orientation. This is one of the examples I am giving of the schemes which really need re-examination. For example, there is another scheme for condensed course. Here 3 years time seems to be unreal along with the other stipulations that are made for all those who attend this condensed course.

For example, 70% pass must be there in order that the grant may be repeated. When will the student be taken? That student must be in this category: He should have given up studies at least 2 years back. He should pass within 3 years. And then 70% of the students must pass. Probably it becomes a little difficult under the present situation.

The money given for the residential courses is really not enough at all in keeping the students in these residential courses. At that time many years ago when the quantum was decided upon, it might have been adequate. But, with the present situation and running away inflation, the money should be increased.

There is another schemes called Balwadi

scheme. Now, with the coming of the ICDS, the nutrition part of it is being taken a way from Balwadi. Balwadi minus nutrition is becoming difficult in my opinion. With this ICDS scheme coming up, Balwadi scheme needs re-examination. Various schemes are there which need very serious review in my opinion.

Sir, before I conclude, I would like to mention one thing. This Ministry, to be purposeful, with the new name 'Women's Welfare' added to it, needs necessary inter-ministerial connection and monitoring. I will give you one example. My colleague Mrs. Phulrenu Guha just now said that women are not taken in the Central Enterprises and they are sometimes even replaced by men. Now, what is happening in the Central Sector enterprises? How many women are being taken in? How many are being displaced? How many more can be employed? If this Ministry monitors all these things, then, more women will get jobs. This Ministry must be a nodal ministry for chasing what is happening in the Central sector enterprises with regard to women's employment. If this Ministry monitors it then more women will be employed than what the Ministry will be able to give by way of direct employment. I don't say that these social welfare schemes which are called socio-economic schemes, should be given up. They should be continued and strengthened. But the former seems to be a very important thing. I do not want to dilate because I have no time. About social laws and their implementation many of them may be under the Home Ministry. But unless this Ministry does constant monitoring about the implementation of those laws, nothing will be done. Some mechanism at the administrative level lower down should be there for implementation. It should be at the district and subdivisional level to co-ordinate all these things and to see what is happening with regard to women's problems and various measures of the Government. Having implementation officer at the lower level exclusively for dealing with women's problems is very essential. This Ministry can take it up with the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Personnel. Like this very many changes in the administrative level in respect of implementation will be needed. While working out the new policy this new Ministry should work out those linkages with other Ministries in regard

to the implementation machinery. In regard to all these things this Ministry should be a nodal ministry. The hopes that have been aroused after the new nomenclature of this Ministry, has to be fulfilled. I do hope that this new Ministry will fulfil it.

I would like to raise one problem among the children. This problem is becoming very dangerous. I refer to drug addiction in Delhi and other places. If you go to the middle class regions you will find that number of students including young girls and boys become drug addicts. Their whole life is being ruined because of this. So, this needs to be given serious attention. If you want to save all their lives then you should take proper measures. I think this aspect has not yet received the tremendous importance it should have received. Having said, this, as the time is very limited, I hope that Government will make proper use of the media to improve the cause of women's welfare, in all its aspects. I don't think that either from the point of view of popularising the new laws or from the point of view of implementation enough has been done through the media. From this point of view also, this Ministry should be a nodal Ministry in this respect. With these words I conclude. Thank you.

[Translation]

*SHRI E. S. M. PAKEER MOHAMED (Mayuram) ; Hon. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare for 1985-86.

Sir, in India we worship woman as the universal *shakti*; the world will not survive without woman. We pay our homage to our country in the name of Bharat Mata. All the perennial rivers of India are deified. Yet there is no limit in the perpetration of injustice towards our women.

We have the Dowry Prohibition Act and yet we cannot restrict the number of brides being burnt on the ground of dowry. If you open the English daily of the Capital, you will immediately see the bride-burning news. I demand stringent enforcement of Dowry Prohibition Act.

As soon as he assumed the Office of

Prime Minister, our dynamic young Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi has made secondary education free for girls. This has been universally welcomed.

Women constitute 50% of our population. There is a Parliamentary Committee for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes who constitute just 18% of our population. I suggest that a Parliamentary Committee for the welfare of women be constituted who constitute 50% of our population.

Our hon. Minister for Social and Women's Welfare is not only the elder states woman of this country but she embodies in her the aspirations of women in our country. Social reform is her soul force. The women's welfare is safe in her hands. She has taken vigorous steps for implementation of Integrated Child Development Services. I demand the constitution of a separate Children Development Board to nurture and nourish the interests of children who are the future wealth of the country. It is also essential for looking into the welfare of child labour. The Gurupadaswami Committee has given many recommendations in regard to child labour. I suggest that they should be implemented effectively. In the magazine entitled INDIA TODAY there was a research article on child labour in the match industry in Tamil Nadu. We cannot statutorily abolish child labour, on account of economic considerations. According to the statistics of Central Planning Commission, 42% of our population is living below poverty line. Naturally we cannot prohibit child labour. But it becomes our duty to ensure that conducive atmosphere is created for child labour with basic minimum facilities.

The Central Government is helping war widows in diverse fields. But most of them are officers' wives. We have not given adequate attention to the rehabilitation of widows of soliders. They are mostly uneducated. I take this opportunity to demand that rehabilitation schemes for the uneducated widows of soldiers should be drawn up by the Central Social Welfare Board and implemented forthwith.

70% of our population is engaged in agriculture and more than half of agricultural labour in our country in women. In Textile

*The speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

Mills more than 50% workers is women. We talk day in and day out that men and women are equal in all spheres of activities. But in agricultural wages the women do not get equal wages. This should be looked into and the women agricultural labour should get equal wages like men agricultural labour. For all publicity the body of woman is exposed. This is wrong. I demand that a high level committee should be constituted to go into the question of exploitation of woman's body for publicity campaigns. With these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE (SHRIMATI M. CHANDRA-SEKHAR) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank the hon. Members who number nearly 23 for having taken so much interest to express their appreciation and also to make certain valuable suggestions about the working of Social and Women's Welfare Ministry. Many hon. Members have spoken about the welfare of women, and have given suggestions. Some of which are overlapping. So, instead of replying to each and every member, I would in general, say a few words about the working of the Ministry and also try to incorporate some of the suggestion which they have made for further improvement of the working of the Ministry both for the Social Welfare and in the Women's Welfare.

Regarding women's Welfare, Shrimati Bibha Goswami in her opening remarks mentioned about the paucity of resources in the Plan and the Budget of our Ministry. I would like to remind the hon. member that other Ministries like Education, Health, Rural Development, etc., have special programmes for women in their sectors and therefore, it would not be correct to say that it is only our Ministry's resources that are available for women. Of course, as mentioned by Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee, the Women's Welfare Ministry is a nodal ministry which will look into, take note of and also coordinate the welfare work and developmental work that is meant for not only women's welfare, but also for other sections concerning the Ministry. The Ministry of Education, for example, has special schemes to increase female enrolment in educationally backward States. The Ministry of Rural Development has got a special scheme for the development

of women and children in rural areas. Maternity health care schemes are being implemented by the Health Ministry. Thus, a combined effort is being made in all the Ministries to earmark a part of their resources for development of women.

Again, Shrimati Goswami has referred to the increase in the number of women labourers in the agricultural sector. It is correct that a majority of women workers are employed in the agricultural sector. In order to provide off-season employment for the large working force, Government have taken up rural employment-generating schemes like NREP and RLEGP. Women workers have benefited from these programmes as they provide not only work but also supportive services like creches, child care centres, etc. About 40 to 50 per cent of workers at the NREP work sites are women.

To satisfy Mrs. Goswami, I can mention that there has been increase—of course it is not enough if we compare the total number of women in the country—but there is an increase, as compared to the total increase in the Budget of other Ministries. In 1984-85 for Social Welfare we got Rs. 78 crores and in 1985-86 we have got Rs. 100 crores. If you take the percentage difference, it is 0.42 per cent in 1984-85 and in 1985-86 we are receiving about 0.54 per cent. I do not say that it is quite enough. But as I said, earlier, we are getting benefit from schemes of other Ministries as well regarding the development of women.

Mrs. Goswami has also referred to the problem of displacement of women workers due to mechanisation and modernisation. In this connection, I would like to assure the hon. Member that Government is very much aware of this problem. Two years ago, a Technology Policy Statement was made, which is aimed at preventing such displacement of workers belonging to weaker sections, including women, by mechanisation. There is a Working Group on Women Workers, constituted by the Labour Ministry in which a representative of our Ministry is also associated. This Group is looking into this problem. There is also a Technology Policy Implementation Cell in the Cabinet Secretariat to look after the implementation of this Policy. So, I want to assure the hon. Member that we are very much aware of this problem.

Shrimati Kishori Sinha made a mention about the drudgery to which women are put, and the need to relieve them of the drudger. There are several schemes being implemented to remove drudgery from the working lives of rural and urban women in their household lives. The National Project on Bio-Gas Development and the National Project on Schedules chulha are two very useful projects. These projects are helping women to cook in a smoke-free atmosphere which improves their health, besides saving them long hours in gathering fuel wood. The Department of Science and Technology has a special programme on "S and T Women" in which special schemes to alleviate women's drudgery are financed. Rs. 1 crore was provided in the 6th Plan for the Scheme.

Quite a number of members have expressed their concern about dowry. We have enacted the Dowry Prohibition Act in 1984, with a view to eliminate the evil of dowry. As soon as the rules for its implementation are finalized, the Act will be in operation. After it is in operation for some time, we will review it; and if changes are necessary, they will be brought about. We have an open mind on this question, and are determined to take all steps to eliminate this evil. This social evil can be fought by social boycott and social awareness, in addition to legislation.

About giving training to women for employment, I would like to say a few words. The need for this was expressed by many Members, and a programme for Training-cum-production units for Women was started in 1982-83 for training of women by public sector undertakings, corporations, autonomous bodies, and then providing them with sustained employment. This programme was started with the assistance offered by the Norwegian Agency for International Development (MORAD). The total assistance offered for the calendar years 1983-86 is 24 million Kroners i.e., approximately Rs. 3.48 crores.

The scheme under which this assistance is being utilized provides for grant-in-aid to public sector undertakings/corporations/autonomous bodies for training component of their project or projects sponsored by them. The implementing agency is required to employ the women immediately on completion of the training, for at least five years.

Against the total assistance of Rs. 3.48 crores offered by Norwegian Agency for International Development, about Rs. 2.61 crores have been sanctioned for 55 projects to 37 organizations upto the end of 1984-85. Out of this amount, Rs. 1.83 crores have so far been released. Therefore, there is commitment of about Rs. 78 lakhs for projects sanctioned upto 1984-85. For 1985-86, a Budget provision of Rs. 1 crore has been suggested. This would meet the requirement of the already committed expenditure and also for a few more projects. Keeping this in view, and the offer of assistance to be received from NORAD, the Budget provision is sufficient. A statement reflecting the assistance sanctioned to various organizations during 1982-83 to 1984-85 is available; I will give it, if there is time.

About education of girls, concern was expressed by Members. We have realized the need for education of girls, at least in high schools. The announcement made by the Prime Minister after the new Government was formed, viz. that girls will be given free education upto high school, is known to the Members, and certain other methods under which this facility can be fully utilized by the girls, is under the consideration of the Ministry.

Special measures to increase female enrolment in schools in nine educationally backward States, are being implemented by the Ministry of education.

Shrimati Phulrenu Guha and some of the other lady Members have mentioned about the status of women in India, about the Committee which was formed when Shrimati Indira Gandhi was the Prime Minister. Their recommendations are quite a few in number. If you want, I can read them. They include Eradication of polygamy in Muslim law; Enforcement of provision against bigamy under Hindu Marriage Act; Reform of marriage laws prevalent in former French and Portuguese territories; Child Marriage Restraint Act to be amended, to raise the age of marriage of girls to 18 years; Compulsory registration of marriages; Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 to be amended to make the offence cognisable, to limit the gifts to bridegroom or his parents, to display wedding gifts and evaluation of amended Dowry Prohibition Act and ceiling on gifts to the bride...

There are quite a few more.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can place them...

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : It is only the legal aspect. There are other aspects also. (*Interruptions*).

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR : Now about economic participation. Apart from the legal aspect, the other recommendations are : Maternity Benefits Act, 1961 should be extended to all industries, and the provision of maternity relief should be extended to all industries and the provision of maternity relief should be ensured by the creation of a Central Fund by levying contributions from employees; Provision of Creches—A limit of 20 women workers should be accepted for this provision. (What we have done is that we have raised it to 30 women); Insurance : The Employees' State Insurance Scheme should be extended to all areas; Equalization of Wages (The Equal Remuneration Act was passed in 1976 for the first time when Shrimati Indira Gandhi was our Prime Minister.); Integrated development of training and employment; Part-time employment : specific provision for part-time employment of women should be made there, in the Anganwadi, most of the members expressed concern that they were given no pay, since they were only part-time workers, and hence they were paid honorarium); Enforcement of laws pertaining to protecting women workers...

There are recommendations relating to educational development. There are many others viz. co-education should be adopted; Pre-School education for all children; Universalization of education for the age group of 6 to 14 years; introduction of sex education from middle school; etc.

About political participation, the recommendations say that there should be establishment of Statutory Women's Panchayats at the village level, with autonomy and resources of their own for the management and administration of welfare and development programmes for women and children.

Reservation of seats for women in Municipalities

The political parties should adopt a policy regarding percentage of women's candi-

dates for election to Parliament and State Assembly.

There should be inclusion of women in all Committees, Commissions and delegation.

Women's Welfare and Development

Change needed in the medical termination of pregnancy Act.

A national policy in the light of the constitutional directives and pledges made to the women should be framed.

Constitution of Statutory, Autonomous, Commission at the Centre and the States for the purpose of collection of information, evaluation of existing policies programmes and laws and redress of grievances. These are all under consideration. We have taken steps in respect of some of them.

The hon. member has raised the question of contribution of the late Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi to the development of women. Let me tell the hon. members that after the freedom of the country, we have made new strides in the field of economic development during the successive Five Year Plans and benefits thereby have reached all sections of our society including women. Recognising women, however, as a disadvantaged group in view of certain historical factors, the Government of India, under the leadership of Smt. Indira Gandhi, appointed a Committee on the status of women (CSWI) to study factors affecting their development. In pursuance of the recommendations of this Committee, the Sixth Five Year Plan 1980-85 contained for the first time in India's planning history a chapter on 'Women and Development'. This changed the emphasis in the case of women from welfare to development and extended the areas of women's concern from the social service factors of education, health and welfare to the areas of economic development such as agriculture, animal husbandry, and other rural development programmes. This also provided for the access of women to training and investment resources to enable them to undertake independent economic activities.

Thus women can now take advantage from all the existing development programmes such as IRDP, TRYSEM and different welfare and other employment-generating programmes being run by the Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare.

A number of legislations and new amendments were brought about during the period of our late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. They are as follows :

Equal Remuneration Act.

Amendment of Factory Act—to increase ratio of creches to women.

Amendment of Maternity Benefit Act—to extend coverage of benefits.

Amendment of Hindu Law by Marriage Law (Amendment Act).

Amendment of Dowry Prohibition Act.

Amendment of Criminal Laws to make punishment more stringent for offences against women, etc.

The Family Courts Act.

One of the hon. members who spoke yesterday referred to the declining employment of women. Actually the work participation rate of women has registered a modest increase in the last ten years. In 1971 it was 14.15 per cent and in 1981 it was 19.76 per cent. We have started various training programmes not only by Social and Women's Welfare Ministry, but by other Ministries as well, in order to enable women to join the job market successfully. TRYSEM, which is a programme for training the rural youth for employment has women trainees who form nearly about one third of the total number. The Labour Ministry has a network of about 2800 institutes, 176 of whom are exclusively for women to train them to take up jobs in traditional and non-traditional fields.

Then again, coming to working women's hostels, in 1984-85 the budgeted amount was Rs.2.70 crores and grants were paid to the tune of Rs.2.80 crores. In 1985-86 Rs.1.75 crores have been allotted. The total amount spent since 1972-73 up to now is Rs. 21.94 crores to construct 344 hostels to benefit 22,951 women. About 69 hostels have been constructed with a capacity for 9711 women. People ask for more funds. After the grants have been sanctioned there is a long delay, and then they say that the prices have escalated and they have to go back and give another estimate. This is due to the slow speed on the part of the voluntary organisations and other agencies which are controlling the building of such hostels.

I would also like to mention that we are not far behind in electing women Members of Parliament or to the State Assemblies or to the municipalities or other local bodies. We had as you know, in the Lok Sabha earlier about 28 Members; now we are about 43 women Members. And I am glad to say that our party has got a majority of them. Apart from this, we have a scheme to help the women in distress. In 1984-85 we have spent Rs.15 lakhs, and in 1985-86 we have provided Rs. 25 lakhs for the schemes of women. They are given vocational training under this scheme and there is also another scheme, of short stay homes for women who are in difficulties and Rs. 8 lakhs have been spent this year. The expenditure on these schemes is shared amongst the Central Government and the State Government and the voluntary organisations in the ratio of 45 : 45 : 10.

Vocational training is given to women, and it is taken up in short term courses, through these schemes. Rs. 25 lakhs was the amount provided in 1985-86 as against Rs.15 lakhs in 1984-85.

Coming to Child Welfare programmes, quite a number of opportunities are there, we have to appreciate the work done by the Integrated Child Development Scheme which is operating in about 1,000 units and I have visited some of them, I have paid surprise visits and I have not found much difficulty. If the hon. Members bring to our notice any units which are not functioning well, surely we will take action and we will not hesitate to do so.

Hon. Members very rightly pointed out the serious consequences of malnutrition among pregnant women, nursing mothers and children. We have found that their nutritional status can be improved by providing a package of services like supplementary nutrition, health-care and nutrition education. So, we started the ICDS programme. It is a package service. Some States have ICDS areas where the health of the children and the mothers and the nutritional status has improved. So, the Government has decided to expand the programme in a phased manner.

The hon. Member also referred to blindness among children due to Vitamin A deficiency. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has taken up a large programme of giving intensive doses of Vitamin

A to young children in order to prevent blindness due to Vitamin A deficiency.

Some of the Members mentioned that we being a nodal Ministry should coordinate all this work. We know what is happening and wherever there is deficiency we step in.

Mrs. Shekhawat also mentioned about the misuse of funds. If any hon. Member, as I said, earlier, brings any case of the alleged misuse of funds or corruption to my notice, it will be thoroughly investigated and if misuse or corruption is found the guilty will be punished.

Mrs. Shekhawat also referred to the employment of the female officers in ICDS. In fact, all Anganwadi workers and helpers are women. ICDS also employs more than two lakh women. In State and National level offices, there are both male and female officers. We have advised the States that the project officers should be ladies as far as possible.

Mrs. Shekhawat also suggested that Anganwadi workers should be full-time employees. I would like to tell my esteemed friend to appreciate that the work of Anganwadi can be best run by Anganwadi workers who can spare four to five hours per day. Of course, we are careful about giving them some fair honorarium. Their honorarium was revised from 1st January 1985.

We have also decided to give training to creche workers. Government is also considering an increase in the provision for nutrition to children in creches.

I have noted the good suggestion that 'anathalaya' should be called 'apna ghar'. It can also be called 'bal grih'. This suggestion can be followed by voluntary organisations which mostly run the homes for destitute children.

There is already a system of allocating adequate funds by the Planning Commission to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in proportion to the population through special component plan for Scheduled Castes and sub-tribal plan for the Scheduled Tribes. In the ICDS programme run by our Ministry 2/3rd of the children of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

get the benefit. This has been revealed in a study conducted by the Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission.

Mention was made of the children fund which amounts to Rs. 1.71 crores, but of which Rs. 10 lakhs have been spent and the rest Rs. 1.62 crores is in the shape of deposits in the bank. This is because of the guidelines of the Childrens' Fund which says assistance can be given to any voluntary organisation for those activities which are not eligible for assistance from any other source. So, if more organisations come up satisfying the guidelines, we would not hesitate to help them out of this fund.

As regards the National Children's Board we are meeting on the 31st of May and the Standing Committee will be meeting in the next week.

About child labour, though it is the concern of the Labour Ministry, special schemes are being worked out to help these children. We have also had discussion with the Labour Ministry.

About creches and day-care centres there are 7,000 units both in the urban and the rural areas. More than 80 per cent of 'Anganwadis' are in rural areas.

As regards the honorarium to the Anganwadi workers—earlier it was Rs. 175 per month. Now it has been raised to Rs. 250 per month for matriculates.

It was Rs. 125 per month for non-matriculates and now it has been raised to Rs. 200 per months for them.

According to the latest report for the period ending 31st December 1984, the number of anganwadis reporting is 90,462. This would mean that at least 1,08,924 women were employed as anganwadi workers and helpers. The number of Mukhyasevikas in position was 3,904 while that of CDPOs was nearly 897. The number of women, who are receiving supplementary nutrition through ICDS anganwadis was 10.91 lakhs.

About indirect benefits, the ICDS has indirectly helped in dissemination of information among women on health and allied subjects. It has also helped in awareness for creating better sanitation condition, and

clean environment. It has also helped in suitable education of family welfare and acceptance of small family norms. It has also created awareness among women about proper child care and upbringing, because the ICDS programme consists of immunisation to the children and the women when the children are born, know that their mortality is not going to be much, mortality rate is going to be low. There is also awareness among the women to limit their families.

About the national policy for women mentioned by some hon. Members, the policy needs to be comprehensive and integrated with the development plans of the country. We are, therefore, having a dialogue with each Ministry concerned with women's development as to how best we can ensure these schemes meant to benefit women, which are refined and restructured to achieve this objective. I have already had discussions with the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Rural Development and I will be discussing with the other Ministries also. I have already had the benefit of discussing with the women M.Ps. as well as Women research workers and social scientists and getting their views on the subject. The Ministry of Social Welfare intends to give the highest priority to economic activities and programmes for women so that they can become self-reliant and economically independent. We have already taken up with the Ministry of Rural Development that 25 per cent of the IRDP beneficiaries should be women, we will fund voluntary organisations for training women in skills and encourage vocational education which will lead to employment. Education for girls and women will have priority. We will also extend schemes which will help women to take the benefit of education and employment such as hospitals, creches for children etc.

Dr. Vallal Peruman made a mention of the condition of working children. I have taken note of this observations. We have taken up the matter with my colleague, the Minister of Labour, whose Ministry's budget proposals included a provision for improving the conditions of working children by providing facilities for education, recreation and health care.

Coming to Prohibition and Drugs Act, I would like to say about prohibition. Most of the Members are very very vociferous

about this prohibition. I agree with the facts that prohibition as a means of raising the standard of living of the people and in improving public health is the Directive Principle of State Policy. The production, manufacture, possession, transport, purchase and sale of intoxicated drinks is the responsibility of the State Governments under Entry 8 of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. The responsibility of fulfilling these Constitutional obligations in regard to prohibition, therefore, rests largely with the State Governments. However, the Government of India serves as a catalyst in persuading the State Governments to take meaningful and effective steps in the direction of fulfilling the Constitutional obligations.

To undertake periodic review of prohibition policy and progress of prohibition in different States, a Central Prohibition Committee is set up in the Ministry from time to time. The Committee was last constituted on 7th September, 1982 up to 30th September, 1984. The recommendations made by the Committee were sent to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. Though prohibition is a State subject, the Government of India offered to compensate the State Governments 50% of the loss in excise revenue incurred by them on introduction of prohibition. I regret to say that the Government of India, in pursuance of this policy made advance payments to some of the States. Even then, they did not incur the necessary expenditure by proper measures to introduce and ultimately they had to return back the money to the Government of India. We propose to continue this policy of 50% compensation according to the present decision up to the year, 1989-90 and thereafter it will be reviewed.

The hon. Member Dr. P. Vallal Peruman has referred to the problem of finance. I share the concern this Member has expressed on the subject. As you may know, many Ministries and Departments are involved in the subject of drug addiction. Its prevention and enforcement aspect are being looked after by the Ministry of Finance and by the Ministry of Home Affairs. The curative aspect is the concern of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Social Welfare Ministry is mainly responsible for building up social awareness and educating the public about the evils of this habit.

We are, however, also coordinating with other Ministries like Health and Information and Broadcasting to ensure that the public is made aware of the subject. This Ministry has sponsored a number of programmes in the media to build up public awareness including radio and TV plays. The Ministry of Finance is gearing up its machinery to deal with the illegal smuggling of drugs. Social Welfare is also conducting surveys to find out the extent of the problem. Voluntary organisations which are interested in running de-addiction camps and centres are being encouraged to do so by Social Welfare Ministry with the grant of financial assistance.

In 1976, seven surveys were conducted to find out among others, the extent of drug addiction among college and university students. It was found that the existence of use of harmful drugs was not significant. In a couple of States, many industrial workers were also contacted of which one was in Delhi. A re-survey is being done in some cities. Besides, two more towns are being included in the sample cities. It is being done in cooperation with the All India Institute of Medical Sciences. The cities covered under this are Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Jaipur, Varanasi, Hyderabad, Bangalore and Jabaldur.

One of the hon. Members mentioned about drug legislation not being effective. The Government is well aware of the need to enact a uniform legislation to cope with every aspect of the drug problem. This legislation is under preparation. The valuable comments of the hon. Members will be kept in view about providing a deterrent punishment. The Ministry had, earlier, in 1976, conducted surveys to find out the extent of drug abuse, including alcohol, in 111 universities, towns and industrial areas. The results of these surveys showed that drug abuse not a serious problem amongst students. Now that India has become an acknowledged transit route for drug trafficking, the Social Welfare Ministry has decided to conduct fresh surveys in these towns, along with some others, in order to assess the magnitude of the problem.

As for de-addiction facilities, I am aware that these are not as much as are desired, but they would be increased. It

is not correct to say that no de-addiction facilities are existing in India. In Delhi at least two hospitals offer indoor and outdoor de-addiction facilities. There are some other hospitals in the States which offer similar facilities. We have taken up with the Ministry of Health to provide de-addiction facilities to all psychiatric wards in hospitals. Having separate de-addiction facilities and centres may not be necessary; besides, they are very costly.

In connection with the same subject I would like to say that the Ministry of Social Welfare sponsored a sample survey by commissioning eleven research studies in 1976; seven research studies were conducted among the university students and some of them covered the rural areas and some covered industrial workers.

I think, I have covered almost all the points. If anything has been left out, we will look into that. I once again thank the hon. Members for having taken so much of interest, for making valuable suggestions and also for appreciating some of the work done by the Ministry.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I shall now put the...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing more. I shall now put the Demand for Grant relating to the Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1986, in respect of the head of Demand entered in the second column thereof against Demand No. 82 relating to the Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare."

The Motion was adopted.

*Demand for Grant, 1985-86 in respect of Ministry of
Social and Women's Welfare voted by Lok Sabha*

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 25th March, 1985		Amount of Demand for Grant voted by the House	
1	2	3		4	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
82	Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare	21,26,97,000	11,08,000	1,07,84,86,000	55,42,000

(ii) Ministry of Labour

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand No. 16 relating to the Ministry of Labour. Six hours have been allotted. Two Members have tabled their Cut Motions, Mr. Narayan Choubey and Mr. K. Ramachandra Reddy. Both of them are not present in the House.

Motion moved :

"That the respective sums not exceed-

ing the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the Fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1986, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 65 and 66 relating to the Ministry of Labour."

Mr. Penchalliah.

*Demands for Grants, 1985-86 in respect of the Ministry of
Labour submitted to the vote of Lok Sabha*

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 25th March, 1985		Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the vote of the House	
1	2	3		4	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
Ministry of Labour					
65	Ministry of Labour	30,31,000	..	1,51,58,003	..
66	Labour and Employment	29,99,40,000	18,66,000	1,49,97,05,000	93,35,000

SHRI PENCHALLIAH (Nellore) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the modern world no country can expect to be a developed country unless it happens to be an industrialised country. Progress is impossible without industries. The industries in turn are very much dependent on labour force, whether it is skilled or unskilled. Our

hon. Prime Minister time and again has promised to take us to the 21st Century. But this year's budget and especially the Labour Ministry's Demands speak something contrary. The interests of the labour were ignored to a large extent if not totally. The allocation made to the Labour Ministry when compared to other Ministries is far

from sufficient. The amount allocated to various welfare measures is negligible. Our workers who sweat and toil to produce more are not having even the basic minimum facilities. No effort has been made this year also to provide them their basic requirements. It is unfortunate, I wonder, how our Labour Minister, Shri T. Anjiah, who started his career as a worker ignored the interests of the working class.

13.56 hrs.

[SMT. BASAVA RAJESWARI *in the Chair*]

I have a profound respect for our Labour Minister and expected that under his stewardship the Labour Ministry would acquire a new image. I thought his Ministry would go all out to solve many of the basic problems. But I am thoroughly disappointed. The amount allocated to this Ministry is hardly a few lakhs—Rs. 512,000 to be more specific more than the last year's allocation. Taking inflation into account, this amount is perhaps lesser to that of last year.

The problems of the labour are too well known. The situation to-day is no different than the situation that existed some 40 years ago. In 1946 itself the then Government realised that without satisfying the labour class, the industrial development was not possible and thought of giving labour "a fair deal consistent with the requirements of other sectors of economy." The Industrial Policy statement of 1945 emphasised the important objective "to secure for industrial workers of fair wage, decent conditions of work and living and reasonable security of tenure."

But it is our misfortune that even after 40 years of the proclamation of that policy the conditions of the labour in the country are no different. There is no change in the working conditions. Living conditions are horrible. One by one all rights of the working class are being taken away. They have no medical and educational facilities. Occupational hazards are on the increase. The successive Governments which ruled the country all these years have done nothing except appointing scores of committees and reviewing their reports. The progress of the working class is on the paper. It is painted colourfully in our

Annual Reports. In terms of reality the conditions of the working class, which is the backbone of our economy has deteriorated from bad to worse.

A new Article 43-A was inserted in the Constitution under the Directive Principles of State Policy to secure the participation of workers in management. The Article provides that "The State shall take steps, by suitable legislation or in any other way, to secure the participation of workers in the management of undertakings, establishments or other organisations engaged in any industry." How far you have succeeded in implementing this directive? I want a categorical reply to this question.

The labour policy during the Seventh Plan speaks of consolidating the gains of past investment spread over three and a half decades of planning and to launch the country on the path of further development. But may I ask if there is any major gain or development during the past six plan periods? In the past, you have enacted several legislations. But not even a single Act was implemented with sincerity.

Sir, contract labour system is the bone of our economy. Many attempts were made, legislations were enacted to abolish contract labour system. But I am surprised to find that coal India is trying to revive this system in certain categories operations which are of perennial nature. It is happening in your own undertaking under your nose. The Government should not allow such things to happen at least in Government Undertaking.

Sir, child labour, unfortunately is a harsh reality in our country. Though we have many provisions of restrictive labour laws, the practice is still in operation. Many children in the country are being exploited by unscrupulous traders. Now the time has come to do away with child labour. Stringent punishment is the only answer. Wherever child labour exist most of whom happen to be orphans they must be taken care of by the Government. Children coming from economically and socially backward communities should be sent to earn but not earn. It requires a lot of dedication. I hope, you will display it.

Sir, this Government speaks eloquently about the women welfare. Instead of encouraging women participation in the management, they are finding ways how best to discourage them and depriving them of job opportunities. Coal companies very recently have initiated steps to reduce the strength of women workers through the introduction of voluntary retirement scheme with the bait of providing employment to one of their male dependents. Sir, it is unfortunate to allow companies to do away with women workers with the offers of certain incentives.

On the other hand women should be encouraged at all levels to become equal partners of their male counterparts. The Government should show by action that it is really interested in the welfare of women.

We have been concentrating our efforts, though to a very limited extent, towards the organised labour force. But all these years, we have forgotten about unorganised sector. Many of them are agricultural labour, bonded labour etc. The time has come to divert our attention towards the problems of unorganised work force. Many progressive measures have yet to be taken. I hope the Hon. Labour Minister would do something for these people in the years to come.

Sir, our hon. Prime Minister has announced the institution of five awards to the workers at the national level. I welcome it. But I want to ask one thing. Whether these awards are going to help the working class in any way? I ask. All that the workers want is a loaf of bread. A few more paise to feed the hungry stomachs of their wives and children. For them, one rupee is more valuable than thousand honours. I am not against the institution of awards. I am just trying to reflect the feelings of millions of our workers. If the awards are in the form of cash, it will, to some extent be helpful to them.

Sir, our Hon. Labour Minister knows the problems of workers too well. In fact, he began his career as a workers. This Ministry has seen too many Ministers in the past couple of years. Frequent change of Ministers is not good for it leads to uncertainty. Now, Shri T. Anjiah is in the saddle. I hope the Ministry would do

well at least in the coming year.

Sir, I think you for giving my an opportunity to speak on the Demands of this important Ministry. I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) :
Madam, Chairman, I rise to support the Demand for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Labour.

The hon. Minister of Labour himself is a great champion of the cause of labourers and I am too person to give him suggestions. However, there are some sectors with the condition of which we all are concerned. One is of domestic servants whose number in the country is very large and whose condition is most pitiable. There are thousands of domestic servants in Delhi itself who are unable to organise themselves, and the workers who are unorganised cannot raise their voice. How will they be able to fight for their rights? It is a matter to be powdered over by everyone. I would request the hon. Minister to have a nation-wide survey conducted, to at least in the major cities, to know their working conditions and take steps to improve their service conditions. Most of them are children in the age group of 10 to 15 years. People prefer to appoint children of this age group as domestic servants and they are being exploited to the maximum possible extent. The UNICEF Report says that about 75 per cent domestic servants are children. These children are not being provided with medical facilities, leave alone basic amenities. They are not given any clothes to wear. The left-overs of the meals of others are given to them to eat. In case a servant falls ill, he is not given any medical aid. When the question of wage arises, he is thrown out on the struts. As they are not registered, no action can be taken against those employers, who violate the labour laws.

The condition of a child worker is had not only in the domestic sector but it is the same in other sectors also like the bidi industry which generally employs children.

The parents feel happy that their ward has not gone for playing and that even if he earns Re. 1 it will be utilised to meet domestic expenses. The fact is that the child works as much as an able bodies labourer but he

is not paid equal wage not even half the wages; he is paid only a nominal wage.

Besides, there are many sectors, which are not directly related to your Ministry, but a lot of atrocities are committed on children there. Certain societies have come up which get themselves registered as social welfare societies and receive aid from the Ministry of Social Welfare and other allied institutions and under the cover of welfare activities they employ small children and get various types of illegal jobs done by them. There is need to conduct a probe into the working of such organisations to ascertain whether they are exploiting the children.

Madam Chairman, the voice of the organised sectors is generally raised in and out side Parliament, these people can represent their interests properly and so, the Ministry of Labour is more an enable to them and tries to safeguard their interests. I would like to urge the hon. Minister to call more frequent meetings of the National Standing Committee set up for the purpose, and ensure proper protection of the interests of the labourers working in the unorganised sectors. About 75 per cent labourers work in the unorganised sectors in our country at present. We have not been able to ensure proper implementation of the laws enacted so far to protect the interests of these 75 per cent workers. Only the intention will not work. We must have a firm resolve determination and will to enforce and implement the laws in the absence of which, most of our laws will remain only in papers as they have remained so far. The responsibility for implementing them mainly devolves on the State Governments but they do not give any importance to this aspects. I would request that there should be some monitoring of the work in this connection. You should call a meeting of the Labour Ministers where it should be discussed. A permanent cell should be set up to over-see whether the laws enacted by Parliament and the State Legislatures are being implemented or not.

Through you, Madam, I would like to point out to the hon. Minister that there is need to amend the Minimum Wages Act. In the meeting of the Labour Ministers, it was decided that the minimum wages rates would be revised, but nothing has been done so far in this direction. I would wage that the proposal revision of minimum wages

rates should be given top priority keeping in view the rising trend in prices. But the minimum wages are not being revised under the provisions of the Minimum Wage Act in the manner they should have been revised. Consequently, a big problem that is arising thereby is that under the cover of the present Act those sectors which should pay more to the workers are also not paying to that extent. They are taking advantage of the helplessness of the workers and are exploiting them under this Act. I would submit that this matter should be taken up on top priority basis.

I would also like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards Labour Co-operative Societies. Wherever Labour Co-operative Societies have been registered in the States, they should be provided work on top priority. It is not being done at present. The Construction Departments should provide work to them but they are not giving them work. The Labour Cooperative Societies are not getting priority in respect of those projects also which have been started for the welfare of the people under NRED and RLEGP. I would urge upon the hon. Minister to take up this matter with the State Government to give the highest priority to the Labour Cooperative Societies for works under NRED and RLEGP.

The Minimum Wages Act is being violated most in the agricultural sector. The agricultural labour is greatly neglected. My submission is that this Labour Bureau should undertake a periodically study which at the national level. The report of the study should be laid on the Table of the Houses of Parliament so that the Parliament Members may come to know the extent to which the agricultural labour, the majority of whom consists of women are being exploited and the extent to which they should get the benefits of the laws that are enacted for their welfare. A comparative study of these two aspects should be made. It will be better if a central machinery is created for this purpose which should monitor how far the laws made for the welfare of the labourers in the agricultural sector are being enforced.

I also want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards the problem of bonded labour. This matter has been discussed in the Parliament many a time. I shall draw your attention towards only one aspect. We

have made very good laws and as a result many people have been freed from bonded labour, but the question is not of freeing them, but also of their rehabilitation of the bonded labourers who used to be engaged on ploughing land or grazing cattle, have, of course, been freed from that and those documents on the basis of which they used to remain as bonded labourers have been torn, but they have no means of livelihood now. We have freed them from the bonded labour but there is need to think how we can convert those benefits which the laws have given them into a reality.

Employment Exchanges have, of course, been opened at different places but they need to be extended to more areas and brought to the block level. Also, the working of employment exchanges needs to be monitored. Presently, the position is that unemployed persons who have got themselves registered for quite some time are either not sent call letters or even if the call letters are sent, they do not get intimation on time.

There is malfunctioning there and corruption is rampant. This matter has been raised in Parliament several times and it comes under the jurisdiction of state governments. I would urge the hon. Minister to take initiative for solution of this problem with the cooperation of state governments.

With these words I thank the hon. Minister and the officers of his Ministry for presenting a comprehensive report and also for enacting various labour laws, taking steps to solve labour disputes and maintaining peace in factories etc. in the country.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Roberts-ganj): Madam Chairman, at the outset, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister and his Ministry for paying full attention towards our labour problems, particularly during the last few years and we can proudly say that there is no loss of mandays and of production now as was being witnessed previously. However, there is need for doing more in this field.

I would like to point out that the time has come when we should bring about uniformity in our existing labour laws. I come from a region where both the public sector and private sector industries are located. U.P. Government's undertakings are also

located there. Madam Chairman, you will be surprised to know that four categories of labourers are engaged in construction works of Government undertakings namely, casual labour, muster roll labour, supply labour and contract labour. All these four categories do the same type of work but there is great difference in their wages.

I would like to give an example in this regard. A labourer employed in a public sector cement factory gets Rs. 29 per day, whereas a casual labourer of a muster roll labourer engaged on breaking stones etc. gets Rs. 8 only per day. When all these people are engaged in the same type of work, i.e. work which requires manual labour, their wages should also be uniform. I demand that such categorisation of labourers should be abolished.

Although Government have enacted a law to pay equal wages for equal work, yet nowhere is it being implemented and consequently there is great resentment among the workers there and a situation which may force the workers to go on strike any time is prevailing over this issue.

I, therefore, request the hon. Minister that all these categories of labour, i.e., supply labour, contract labour, muster roll labour and casual labour should be merged into one category. Contract labour should be abolished completely. All the labourers should be put in one category and a beginning should be made from the public sector. After that it may be extended to the private sector also.

There must be a monitoring cell in the concerned department of the Ministry to see what type of labour is engaged in a particular undertaking and to ensure that the contractor does not exploit the workers there. Exploitation of workers is being done on a large scale today.

We have also enacted a law to pay equal wages to men and women for equal work. But it is a matter of surprise that despite all our efforts, no State Government is implementing this law properly. In the Forest Department of my state a woman gets Rs. 4 whereas a man gets Rs. 6 for the same work. It is essentially the responsibility of State Governments to implement the Minimum Wages Act. But the Central Government should set up a machinery to

monitor its implementation. I am not talking of agricultural labour only. The Minimum Wages Act is not being implemented in respect of labour engaged in construction work, manufacturing bidis and breaking stones, and the official machinery is quite inadequate to ensure its implementation. In my district of Mirzapur, there are only 2 or 3 inspectors although it has a population of 18 lakh. How is it possible to ensure implementation of this Act through 2 or 3 inspectors? Two or three inspectors will not be able to ensure its proper implementation at all the places. The same is the situation in Madhya Pradesh and Bihar.

The farmers do not maintain any register under the provision of the Minimum Wages Act. The position is such that on the one hand you go on enacting laws and on the other hand the labour is being victimised by big farmers. They make a mockery of these laws. No police officer or other officer feels competent today to ensure that the labourers are paid minimum wage. In this way the labourers are being exploited by big farmers. The labourers are becoming the victims of the wrath of the big farmers.

Many programmes are going on in the country at present but experience has shown that not much benefit has accrued as a result thereof. Take, for example, the problem of bonded labour. The day when our late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi enforced Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act in the country, was a red-letter day in the history of our country when crores of people realised what independence means. Under the provisions of this Act a bonded labourer cannot be forced to work by the same employer in spite of any loan outstanding against the labourer. Our Ministry of Labour deserves congratulations for this commendable step. But at the same time, two problems have also cropped up. The bonded labourer has been given freedom, but where will he find a job now? The result is that in the absence of any work, they remain idle. There is a very large tribal area inhabited by Harijans and 'Mat' system is in vogue in the hill areas. The moneylenders and big landlords have their own system of lending money. I know about the hill areas of U.P. from where these people come. Under this system, if a father is, in anyway, involved in debt, his future generations will have to work as bonded labour. Now if

they are freed, the problem of their rehabilitation will arise. If we go to villages and talk like this, the entire farmer community will get agitated and their work will come to a stand till next day. Therefore, it is necessary to go deep into all the aspects of the law before it is enacted to foresee the problems that may possibly crop up during implementation and we should also set up some machinery to ensure how best it can be implemented. So far as the farmers in the drought-prone areas, coastal areas, hill areas and desert are concerned, while fixing the wages the State Government concerned should bear in mind whether these farmers have got enough income from their fields to enable men to pay the wages of the labour they engage. Therefore, I want that before a law is enacted all its aspects should be examined thoroughly.

I have many things to say on this subject because it concerns us. Since you are ringing the bell, I would like to touch three or four main points. We must ensure proper implementation of whatever laws we enact. It is a very serious matter. Merely making speeches will not do. We shall have to go deep into it. There are a large number of problems in the power and coal sectors. You should tell them that too much of trade unionism is not good. Please check this trend. I do not believe in any union but I also do not want that the Russian type of system liked by our CPI(M) friends should obtain here; otherwise everything will be topsy-turvy. However, I am a supporter of such union as believes in democratic principles. A situation has arisen today in the Electricity Board and other organisations in U.P. that the Chairman of the Board or the entire Board itself or the State Government is not able to order transfer even of a class IV employee. There is gross indiscipline there. These people have become so influential that I doubt whether you will be able to generate electricity in future. We must pay our attention towards putting an end to indiscipline in the other sectors also in the country. We must stop indiscipline among labour also because without discipline no country can make progress and march ahead. Our late Prime Minister had rightly said that our country could not make progress without a sense of discipline. So, it is necessary to remove the atmosphere of violence, fighting

and abuse created everywhere by the so called leftists amongst various trade unions. I demand that a union found indulging in violent activities should immediately be derecognised, otherwise it will become difficult to check the increasing violence among workers. Wherever we undertake development works in the country, hundreds of unions come up and indulge in blackmailing and create destacles in the development work. There are certain industries in Uttar Pradesh where even a D.S.P. was murdered; leaders were murdered in broad day light. Murder of workers also takes place. How far shall we go on tolerating such things in independent India ?

Madam Chairman, through you I would like to tell the hon. Minister that if we have to take the country into the 21st century, if we want to make the country prosperous, if we want the country to make progress and build an infrastructure to create a constructive atmosphere, then my foremost demand is that no union, in any organisation, that indulges in violent activities or believes in instigating violence or participates in violent activities, should in any circumstances be allowed to function. Here we are reminded of the strike in Bombay. Incidentally Shri Samant is sitting here. I would like him not to do any such thing. When we undertake some labour welfare measures, he should not mislead the labour. There has to be a limit to the demands being put up by them. There should be some limit. Sir, I am saying... (Interruptions).

[English]

SHRI DATTA SAMANT : Because of Government's policies, the workers are suffering...

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Panika, please address the Chair.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : I do not yield.

[Translation]

So, I would like to say that it is our duty, it is the responsibility of the unions not indulge in such things. I would like to say one thing more... (Interruptions).

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You must get the

permission of the Chair if you want to speak. You should not talk in between.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : I would like to tell him that in the unorganised sector, i.e., agriculture, as has been said by an hon. Member earlier, we have formed Unions in the states but they do not get co-operation from the Labour Department. So, you should set up a separate machinery for the unorganised labourers, whose number runs into crores, which could look after their interests exclusively.

I would like to say one thing about the State Insurance Scheme also. It is a very good scheme. You provide medical facilities under this scheme. But why do you impose it on those industries and labourers who do not want it ? We have a union at Rihand, in our Electricity Board. The workers and the officers there have requested that they may be excluded from the E.S.I. Scheme. The Central Government do not give any financial assistance to that organisation. It is an organisation in the State Electricity Board. Medical expenses to the extent of 7.8 per cent are provided to the employees by the employers. The State Government's share is one per cent. So, in case the workers and their Rihand Union want that they should be excluded from the application of the ESI Scheme their request should be conceded.

I would also like to submit that there is need to expand the E.S.I. facilities. There are the Rihand and HINDALCO companies in our area. The leave recommended to a worker by the E.S.I. doctor is sanctioned only when the same is countersigned by the factory doctor. I want that the jurisdiction of E.S.I. should not be infringed upon in any way, even by the private sector. It has to be stopped. The private sector and co-operative sector exist only in name because the entire investment in them is by Government and the nationalised banks. So, the rules framed for the workers should be enforced strictly in all the three sectors, namely the private sector, the public sector and the co-operative sector.

I agree with my C.P.I. friends who say that Lockouts, lay-offs and other forms of retrenchment being resorted to in the country today are attributable mere to mismanagement. What is happening in the private

sector is that they divert funds from one company to the other. It should be stopped. I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister who has said in his statement that no lockout shall be allowed without his permission. The companies, which declare lay-offs and render the workers unemployed, should be dealt with firmly. I would also like to thank him for the discussion on D.C.M.

Yesterday, the hon. Minister assured us that D.C.M. would not be allowed to be closed down. It is a very good thing. Sometimes, it happens that the contractors become more influential and the workers' representatives are conveniently ignored. He should see to this problem also.

Madam, the hon. Minister is very kind towards the workers and he knows their difficulties. That is why the condition of the workers is improving day by day. Recently, the Bonus Act came. Other Acts are also coming. In this connection, I would like to submit that a single authority should be made responsible for the implementation of all these Acts and all the factories should be brought under the control of the Central Government so that nobody can find an excuse that it is a State subject or that it pertains to the State sector. There should be a Central machinery to control them.

[English]

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central) : Sir, this issue was raised by my friend and even the hon. Minister had said regarding the violence of the textile workers in Bombay. It is quite unfortunate in this House that without knowing their problems, without studying what is happening in the country vague statements are made.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : I have studied. You cannot say that I have not studied.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please resume your seat. If you want anything, you can ask for clarifications.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : There are 3 lakh textile workers out of jobs not only in Bombay but in Ahmedabad, Kanpur, Delhi and Tamilnadu. In Bombay, the textile workers are on strike. I would like to say in this house that the textile workers are working for the last 100 years. Even after

working for 30 years, the salary of the textile worker is not more than Rs. 800-900. There are about one lakh badli or temporary workers among them without getting confirmation for the last ten years. If a member of Parliament does not get this small wage, he will be upset. How much more the temporary and badli workers should be upset if they do not get confirmed for a number of years? Every year, three textile mills are closed because of the mismanagement and, therefore, the workers are frustrated. My friend Mr. Dange organised three strikes. The INTUC broke those strikes. Therefore, the workers decided that they should fight it at any cost. The INTUC and the Police were waiting at the gate to break the strike. The problems of the textile workers are not known to anybody and it is really pitiable. After strike UP to six months, nobody came to visit any one of the affected 60 textile mills. After six months, the directives were given by the Centre Government that the strike should be broken at any cost. In the 25 Sq. mile area, Section 144 was promulgated for two years. 40 of the Union activists were detained under the National Security Act. 3,000 workers were arrested under the amended Section 151 and they were put behind the bars for 14 days. Then Advertisements were given in the press and they started recruiting new people in the textile mills under police protection. By taking 10 or 15 people into the mills, an announcement was made in the radio that 3,000 to 4,000 were recruited in the mills. False propaganda was made in this way. When I revealed this in the Assembly, our MLAs went and visited the mills! In T. V. and radio it was said '3000'. But not even three workers were in the mill. The operation to break the strike has been done by the Congress Government in order to teach a lesson to the workers at any cost. Dr. Samant may be wrong. You can blame me. But are you going to blame the 2.5 lakh workers? After two years, some workers started going in.

The Mukesh Mill, next to Taj Mahal, was burnt by the employers. We went to extinguish it, but they did not allow us. The Fire Brigade Station was about $\frac{1}{2}$ kilometre away. They were not allowed to enter. I raised this issue in the Assembly three times. An inquiry was instituted. But the report has not come. Government has given permission to close it. I went to the High

Court and I got judgment from Justice Lentin. He says that it is really pitiable that Government is allowing this mill to be closed and giving permission to construct a five-star hotel next to Taj Mahal. Similar is the situation in respect of Phonex mill. The employers have burnt it. It has been proved. Again, cement was given and he constructed a building there. I would like to state in this House that, in respect of Sitaram Mill, owned by Tanatia Brothers, a trust was formed. On 75 per cent of the land, buildings and petrol pumps were constructed. The machinery were mortgaged to Calcutta Partnership. Four thousand workers did not get their salary for three years, and they are not going to get provident fund. This was prior to the strike. The Tata Mills, which is in the centre of Bombay, were running in profit upto 1979. After 1979, it started running in loss, and permission was given for construction of a hotel. Again, permission has been given to construct a hotel in the India United Mills and there other mills. The point about DCM was discussed in the House yesterday. Even my Congress friends were talking in that tone. What is happening in Bombay? Ten mills are closed for no fault of the workmen. And Government is allowing them to construct buildings on the land. All these Bombay mills are going to get Rs. 700 crores if all land is sold. The share capital of all these mill-owners is not going to be Rs. 70 crores. So, there are vested interests, including the Government. Some of the people are working hand in hand with the mill-owners. I am making this accusation because we are very bitter on this issue.

The Bradberry Mill, Sitaram Mill and Saxera Mill collected the provident fund amount from the workers, but they have not added their contribution. They have made a fraud there. This was also prior to the strike. Such type of open frauds are being committed by the mill-owners. Those who are producing about Rs. 1200 crores worth of cloth every year cheated, exploited and sucked the blood of the workers. And you are giving them loan of Rs. 200 crores every year. They are not paying taxes to the Government. The mill-owners are working hand in hand with the political party in power and every year they are giving money for their election fund. This is happening. If you

want, I can give the names, but I do not want to mention in the House. This is a very bad thing. The mills were nationalised. In thirteen nationalised mills 40,000 workers were there. But still 20,000 workers are waiting out; they have not been taken. This was the biggest strike in the world; this strike was even five or six times bigger than the miners' strike of England. The whole world has taken note of it; people from England, America and Russia came and studied the workers; they all took note of the situation. But the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, who was just two miles away from there, the Congress Government and the Congress Party did not bother at all as to what was happening to the workers. All these workers are from Maharashtra, very poor people, they were born and brought up in Bombay. If this is the attitude of the Government, it will be very difficult for the workers to cooperate.

Still you can do certain things. When the workers were on strike, the Government, the nationalised banks and the Corporation, without studying the position about workers, were giving money to the mill-owners. All of them have modernised their machinery and reduced the working force. Now the workers who are going to join are being taken as new workers with reduced salary; they are asking them to do double the work and are also compelling them to become members of the INTUC. I may inform this House that, if secret voting is taken between INTUC Union and my Union not even five per cent votes will go to the INTUC. Still you want to force the union on the workers? Why this compulsory thing on the workers? Is it a democratic principle you are going to follow in this country? Therefore, my request to the Government is because we are very bitter on this issue—let the workers join whichever union they want. The work in the mills has doubled and you can definitely give them Rs. 400 to 500 extra rise in wage.

You are always talking of the textile policy and saying that there will be no retrenchment. The workers who want to leave the job are forced to retire. The mill-owners are not paying their dues. Even in the nationalised mills their gratuity and provident fund is not paid. How long are we to wait for these? You are going to such an extent to exploit the workers at all

levels and in spite of such a big strike, if the Government is going to keep silent, it is really a serious affair.

Regarding the textile policy, the Prime Minister came twice to Bombay and in the Shivaji Park near our textile mills meetings were held but nothing was talked regarding the workers in Bombay who form 80% of the population of Bombay. In Ahmedabad he goes and gives an assurance that we are going to have some policy in which workers' interests are maintained. Elections passed, President's Address passed and Budget speech was over and now six months have passed. Three lakhs workers are out and the Government are not coming out with any policy and their policy is just to help the mill-owners, those who have committed frauds, those who have exploited the whole economy of the country and those who have not paid the taxes. To such people this Government is going to extend support instead of supporting lakhs of textile workers and the jute workers who are going to die in the cities.

There is another policy: We are encouraging handloom and powerloom. We are not against it because village employment should be there. But the Congress people are taking political advantage by giving them the job. I am connected with Ahmedabad also. They are taking the cheap labour from the closed mills for running the powerlooms. So it is the slaughter house. You get rid of the city workers and get the village employment. The mill-owners are benefited because of the cheap labour and the parties are benefited because they are giving village employment. I think it is high time that the Government will come out with concrete policies whether the people who are working for generations in the cities, their interests will be maintained. I think the Minister will definitely come to Bombay. I will take him to all the mills.

Then, Sir, I do not know. There is propaganda on the paper and on the radio of workers indulging in violence. For six months not even an ant was killed and nobody shouted for help and there was no need for the Police. Even the Police Commissioner was shocked. After 7 months, when your people started breaking the strike and 144 was imposed, then certain violence

came. Then who is responsible for the violence?

Another point. Our country is going to be more industrialised. It will no longer be an agricultural country. Our Prime Minister is saying by 21st century more factories will be built. What is the percentage of the sick units in the country? Even Tatas are starting units in the villages. 90% of their finance is given by Government financial institutions. The infrastructure you are building. Then what is the control of the government over these people and how will you see that they are showing proper accounts? If you give me time, after my speech I will tell you the names of 15 mills who are purchasing shares, they set up different selling agencies and in between manipulations are made. The selling agencies are in the names of their wives or some relations. The rate is put up by 15% and their own mills are made sick. The selling agency is becoming rich and the mill-owners are starting another 10 factories and in this way the units are made sick. At present about 1 lakh units in this country are made sick. What is Section 25 O? Yesterday the House discussed 25 (O) of the Industrial Disputes Act. What is the provision in 25 O? You deny closure. What is the punishment? Fine and maximum 3 months imprisonment. You tell me a single example where you have taken such action. I will narrate about 10,000 factories which are closed without your permission. How much action is taken? Let us discuss that problem. This is the fun going on. I will give concrete examples. In my union in Bombay, the Srinivas Cotton Mill was closed one year back. It was a quarrel between two owners—Bangad and Saumayya.

I went upto the High Court. The High Court says 'No closure'. The electricity bills were not paid, so the mill was closed. Union is not responsible. What is your 25 (O) going to do? There are two units of W. G. Parge one in Thane in my constituency and the other at Kudal in Prof. Dandavate's constituency. The employers are making frauds. I have raised this issue three times on the Floor of the Maharashtra Assembly as a Calling Attention.** assured me "we will take action". But nothing was done.

I will conclude in 3-4 minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You should not mention any name.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : I am sorry. I am withdrawing it. The Maharashtra Government assured me in the House "we will take action". W. G. Forge factory was closed one year back but no action has been taken by the Government. It has gone in liquidation with Rs. 40 crores liabilities. There is another factory Amar Dyechem. It is closed for the last eight days on account of power-cut. Then there are Digvijay Cement Mill, Pattanwalla Glass Works, Jasmine Mill, etc. They are also closed. In my list there are 50 big factories in Maharashtra which are closed without Government's permission. Exen High Court has also refused permission for closure to 25 per cent of these factories. With such tendency and your pitiable old laws when is the Government going to act ?

You are going to give a lot of money for re-starting the factories to these employers. They will again mis-appropriate this money. About 30 per cent of the loans already granted have not been recovered from these people.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : There are two points which I would like to stress. I have made a study of industrial growth in our country in the Poona Contonment. The study reveals that in a period of 13 years, namely, between 1972-1985 the industries' growth there doubled but there was hardly an increase of 25 per cent in labour.

What does your Planning Commission say ? The Planning Commission say that in the Sixth Plan the industries have developed and the targeted employment is short by three crores and ten lakhs. This is Central Government figure. Sir, at present in this country four and a half crores people are unemployed. They are on the road. You are now starting technical education in colleges. I am for automatisation and I want our country should reach the standards of America but how will you be able to develop the country when there is unemployment ? There has to be coordination between the two.

What is happening in Gujarat and

Maharashtra at the moment ! Communal quarrels have also raised their ugly head. There are about four and a half crore unemployed people. According to Central Statistical Organisation data reating to 1981-82 the assets have gone up by 16 per cent whereas the employment has gone up by only .8 per pent. Therefore, in the Sixth Plan there is negative growth as far as employment is concerned.

Sir, about 30-40 per cent in this country is the labour population but is there any single law which decides the share of the workers in the growth and the profit of the company ? I have got Premier, Godrej, Mazagon Docks—two are in my union—but not a single employer is showing correct accounts. There is manipulation and profit and sale. They start the industry with government money and the employer makes a profit of Rs. 1 crore but what is the share of the workman. What is your law in this country which decides the share of the workman in the growth and profit of the company ? Hindustan Lever has got a turnover of Rs. 600 crores and a profit of Rs. 55 crores. What is the law in this country by which you are going to decade the share of the workers. I accuse this government of not being bothered about the share of the workman. There are so many pharmaceutical units which are making huge profits but there is no law which takes care of the share of the worker. There are no minimum wages there. My friend has raised the issue regarding minimum wages. Sugarcane, tea and coffee farm labour are not getting minimum wages and you are not prepared to fix the minimum wages for agricultural workers. People in these industries are making fantastic profits. Stone breaking workers in Bombay and Thane are getting Rs. 2000 per month. And still they are running very well. What is the wage in Delhi ? There is the capacity to pay. But your Government is not prepared to even revise this wage. Take Tabela workers in Bombay numbering 40,000. The minimum wage is Rs. 215. They are in my union. I am getting them Rs. 700. I am not praising myself. Strong unions can make such changes. In the Premier Mill, my sweeper is getting Rs. 2500. In Firestone, 2000 workers are drawing more than Rs. 3000. In Crompton crore workers got Rupees 600. There is capacity to pay. But the Government is not prepared to do it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have taken more time. please conclude.

SHRI DATTA SAMANT : I want to say about the laws. I am sure 50% poverty line you will be able to eradicate by strictly implementing new wage. My friend has rightly said about child labour, construction labour, bidi labour, shop establishment, etc. There is no need of saying anything. If you implement this there is no need of IDBI plan. If you implement minimum wage, 50% poverty will be removed.

Then I come to contract labour. I am making this categorical statement. The Minister may correct me if I am wrong. 50% of the labour of this country are contract, badli, casual and all those categories. What is the position in this regard ? What about your Contract Labour (Abolition) Act ? Is there any provision to make the workers permanent ? No. In contract labour there is no provision to make the workers permanent. If the worker is removed there is no provision for asking for his reinstatement. There is no such provision. In contract labour 20 workers will be registered. The employers are registering 18 workers of 20 contractors. So, they are not registered. In Mukund Iron Works and Hocchut. Pharmaceuticals profits are there. But there is no provision in the about appointment of labour. He can appoint 100% as contract labour. If that is the fate of all these Acts I don't know where we are and how the Government is going to do all necessary things.

In regard to Bonus Act, the Government is going to announce Rs. 750-1600. One thing good is there. But ultimately the bonus formula remains the same. What is the bonus formula ? Whatever small amount remains after tax, depreciation and all these thing then, that is divided by 750. So, instead of 20, all people will get 10% bonus. But unless the formula is changed there is no advantage to the workers. ESI's level was taken from 1,000 to 1600. 4 lakhs workers are covered and Government is going to get Rs. 50 crores profit. But is there provision for these workers ? Rs. 1600 salary is there; Rs. 80 he will take from the employer and Rs. 40 from my pocket. You are taking Rs. 110 for the medical benefit. You are not giving the benefit of Rs. 10 even. About Maharashtra. I know the position very well. I know the position in Gujarat. I know the

position in Aurangabad, All these workers are covered but there is no hospital. There is no doctor. The Government is collecting Rs. 110 from me, from my pocket. What they are making is profiteering. That is another thing, Madam.

Regarding DA ceiling, the Minister made an announcement in this House regarding the Government sector. DA level is taken from 1.3 to 1.65. All right; it is good that such laws are brought. But in Bharat Petroleum and Mazagaon Docks they are already getting more. Are they going to reduce it ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please resume your seat. You have taken more time.

SHRI DATTA SAMANT : I will conclude in one sentence.

The industrial population is 30 to 40 per cent more than the agricultural workers. Don't limit the union etc. It is the duty of the Government to find out the workers' share; they should do everything to protect their interests. That is the prime need of the country; that is the need of the hour. With these words I conclude my speech. Thank you.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN (Idukki) : Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Labour.

First of all, I will deal with the agricultural workers because ours is an agricultural country. Agricultural workers belong to the most unorganised sector in this country. There is the Minimum Wages Act in force. Some of the States have implemented the Minimum Wages Act for their agricultural workers but I see from the report of the Ministry that even at present there are some States yet to implement the minimum wages for agricultural workers.

15.00 hrs.

I would like the hon. Minister kindly to examine this.

Sir, in the Thirty-first Session of the Labour Ministers' Conference held in July 1980, it was decided that the minimum wages should be revised once in every two years or on a rise of 50-points in the consumer price index, whichever is earlier. This being the fact, many States are not revising the minimum wages for the agricultural workers.

I would like to know from the Minister which are the States which have not revised the minimum wages for agricultural workers after 1980. Sir, the Government of Kerala is giving pension to the agricultural workers. When these labourers are healthy, they toil and work hard in the fields. Our agricultural production is not because of the hard work of the farmers alone, but it is because of the hard work of the agricultural labourers as well. Actually, the agriculturists and the labourers are both sides of the same coin. Whatever help and assistance is due to the agriculturists as well as to the agricultural labourers, they do not get them. It is most unfortunate and disappointing that we neglect these workers. The Government of Kerala is giving some pension to the agricultural workers when they attain old age, when they are not able to work in the fields. I would request the Labour Minister kindly to take up this issue with other States also. I would also request him to consider giving 50% financial assistance—the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance is also here and I am sure that he would consider this point—to the State for meeting this expenditure for giving pension to the agricultural workers.

Now, I will come to the rehabilitation of bonded labour. This is a very important item. Sir, in our Prime Minister's 20-point programme, bonded labour was abolished by an Act passed by this House in 1976. But I see from the Report that out of 1,73,000 bonded labourers identified, only 1,35,000 have been rehabilitated. I do not know what has happened to the remaining people. Again, in the current financial year, according to the targets fixed by the Government, in consultation with the Planning Commission, the target for identifying and releasing the bonded labours was 30,633 whereas only 14,600 bonded labours are released and rehabilitated. That works out to only 46%. I think this achievement is not satisfactory. I would like to know from the hon. Minister why this shortfall in this very important field of activity.

But, at the same time, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister for maintaining good industrial relations, maintaining industrial peace. Last year, that is, in the year 1984, the number of man-days lost due to strikes and lock-outs in the country was 31.64 million whereas this year it has been

brought down to 22.89 million. I must definitely congratulate him for maintaining industrial peace. Definitely it goes a long way in increasing production and productivity. Similarly, the number of strikes and lock-outs from 2296 in 1983 came down to 1,374 in this current year. This is definitely noteworthy and the Ministry deserves congratulations.

Here I would like to make one point. Sir, at present you have one Chief Labour Commissioner assisted by a number of officers under him, in order to see whether labour laws are implemented properly or not. For this purpose, you have got 13 regional offices in various States. There are Regional Commissioners also in most of the States where Regional Commissioner's offices are located.

It is very disappointing that the State of Kerala is not having a Regional Labour Commissioner's Office. I hope the Minister will consider this and at least this year sanction a Regional Labour Commissioner's Office in the State of Kerala with headquarters at Trivandrum.

Regarding worker's participation in management, it is our declared policy. I have gone through your report but I do not see anything practically in that except that you have conducted some seminars and meetings and said something very vague by about it. But that is not enough. It is our declared policy and our Late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi had also many a time announced that that was the Government's policy. But I do not know why we are not going ahead with it. Practically, no tangible achievement is made in this respect. In this connection, I would like to say that there are Central Government undertakings and public sector undertakings. These public sector undertakings should set an example by giving participation to their workers and their unions in the management so that other State undertakings and private sector undertakings also will follow suit. I hope the Minister of Labour will take up the matter with the concerned authorities. I feel that this is important.

With regard to the Palekar Tribunal's award relating to journalists, Government have accepted this award and it had issued orders also. First, the Government accepted all the recommendations except DA and then

The Government issued another order in respect of D.A. It is also having a ministerial committee to review the progress in respect of that. But can you assure this House that this has been implemented by all the newspapers owners in the country? I am sure that there are still a number of units which have not implemented this. In spite of your direction to States to form a Tripartite Committee in the States, there are States which have not formed this Tripartite Committee. This is very important because in this House itself, in the previous Lok Sabha, I remember that an assurance was given that the Government would see to it that the Award would be implemented.

Coming to the question of bonus, it has already been mentioned that the minimum bonus is 8.33 per cent, and the maximum bonus payable is 20 per cent, subject to the available allocable surplus. In many companies, in some years when there is a loss, the bonus is paid at 8.33 per cent. But the next year, they may be getting a huge profit. But even then they pay only 20 per cent and no more. Why should there be this maximum ceiling? You may either remove this maximum ceiling or fix it at a higher level because companies get huge profits in some years, though sometimes there may be losses. When they get huge profits, they can afford to pay more than 20 per cent. Therefore, this upper limit may be removed.

Again Sir, the salary of Rs. 1600 is the maximum limit for paying bonus. Actually this was fixed many years ago, when money value was more. Now, money value has decreased so much. So, this limit of Rs. 1600 should be raised.

Now coming to gratuity, I have one suggestion. Gratuity is to be paid for every year of service and 15 days wages is the gratuity to be paid and it is subject to a maximum of 20 months salary. In this regard I had written to you. Why not we form a Gratuity Board? We can have a Bill to be brought forward to this effect and the employer should remit these 15 days wages every year in the Bank, so that this money will be accumulated and the worker can get the interest also. Not only that, Government can get at their disposal a huge sum of money. Government can get at their disposal, a huge sum by way of wages, that is an yearly gratuity from all the employers. This is another advantage, because inspite of your

law on gratuity being there, many of the employers are not paying it. You are not able to take any punitive action against them. But if you are remitting this amount every year, the worker is sure to get gratuity. So, I request you kindly to examine whether we can form a Gratuity Board, and yearly gratuity amounts in the form of wages should be deposited in the public account.

Now about child labour. Yesterday also, I spoke about it. In spite of the prohibition, viz. that child labour should not be allowed in our country, in so many undertakings and private firms—I do not say public firms—they are employing children even below 14 years. I do not know how you are going to check this. This problem is a very serious one. Recently, there was a question in Parliament, and you answered it saying that even at present, a number of children were engaged in such work. I would request you to take up this issue in right earnest, and see that this is totally abolished in our country. Even after 37 years of independence if it is not abolished, it is a shame on us.

Another very important point I want to make is this. We have the Emigration Act of 1983, under which you have the Protector of Emigrants, and certain other officers in Trivandrum, Cochin, Chandigarh and some other places. These offices were established to protect the interests of the Indian workers going abroad, and also to save the workers from unscrupulous recruiting agents. The intention is very good. But I have got a number of complaints especially from Trivandrum, that instead of controlling the recruiting agents, these officers are standing in the way of workers who want to go abroad. Somebody might have got a visa and other things after paying Rs. 1500 which you have fixed, or even more. The recruiting agents would have got the money from the workers. But the Protector of Emigrants stops the worker from leaving on technical groups. The poor worker loses his money. I think that the control exercised by the Protector of Emigrants should be on the recruiting agents. Otherwise, the worker loses. The worker might have collected the money by disposing of his property, or sometimes his wife's jewels etc. Instructions should go to the Protectors that their intention should not be to control the workers, but to control the recruiting agents.

15.14 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

One more point : you are aware that one million Indian workers are now working abroad as contract labour in Gulf and other countries. They are sending to our Exchequer more than Rs. 2,000 crores in foreign exchange every year. But there is a very serious danger ahead. In these Gulf countries, the chances of our people getting employment are on the decline. Not only that. When their contract period is over, they are not going to get it renewed. It means that within 3 or 5 years, all these workers will have to come back to India. It is not a small number. One million people are involved. This is going to pose a serious problem for us. What are you going to do with them ? How are we going to rehabilitate them ? Most of them are from Kerala, Hyderabad or towns in Gujarat and other places. It will be a very difficult problem to absorb them. Have you ever thought of how to tackle this problem ? I would suggest that your Ministry should think about it, ponder over it, take up the matter with the Ministry of Finance and also with the Ministry of Industry, chalk out long term programmes and plans so that when the inflow of these workers working starts, we should be able to absorb them and we should be able to rehabilitate them. Otherwise, it would create a very serious problem. I would request the hon. Minister to consider this aspect also while replying to the debate. I support the demands.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRIDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Labour. I would like to draw the attention of the Labour Minister towards the Mewar Textile Mill in my constituency which has been lying closed for a year. Many hon. Members have said that the government financial institutions provide 90 per cent funds and on the strength of remaining 10 per cent funds the mill-owners earn crores of rupees and transfer their assets to set up new industries and in turn declare the old industries as sick while the Labour Ministry remains a silent observer and does nothing, which is a very dangerous state of affairs. I would request the hon. Labour Minister to take steps for reopening this mill as early as

possible. We have been striving hard during the last one year and now that the Textile Corporation have agreed to take it over and the Rajasthan Government have promised to give Rs. 50 lakh, there is some hope of its revival and now if the Central Government financial institutions give financial assistance expeditiously, then the mill that has been lying closed for a year can be reopened and the 2,500 workers rendered unemployed can start earning their livelihood again. I would request the hon. Minister to try his best to get this mill reopened.

On the 26th of last month, the Textile Minister had also given an assurance that this mill would be reopened as early as possible and now if your cooperation is available, it can be reopened very soon.

My second point relates to Provident Fund. There is great mismanagement in the Department dealing with Provident Fund. Today, there are arrears to the tune of crores of rupees against the mill-owners for the recovery of which no steps are being taken and even the share of workers is not deposited by the mill-owners and your department is doing nothing, whereas some penal action should have been taken against the defaulters. Your Ministry has not taken any action against any capitalist. The hon. Minister should pay special attention towards this and see that the most stringent action is taken against the defaulters to prevent such type of irregularity in future.

Similar is the case so far as E.S.I. is concerned. Under this scheme the Central Government, the other employers and workers contribute their respective share, but after deducting the share of workers, the employers do not deposit that money as well as the money of their own share and as a result thereof the workers face great difficulty. They do not get medicines. In the case of accidents, they do not get compensation. So, penal action which has never been taken so far, should be taken against these employers who have not deposited the workers' share because of which the workers are suffering as they are not getting medicines. The hon. Minister should look into this scheme. In both these cases your Ministry is showing laxity and is not working efficiently. I would therefore, request you to look into the matter personally and ensure proper implementation of those schemes,

Last year, a law was enacted to cover sand-stone and dolomite mine workers under the Welfare Fund Scheme. At that time, I had proposed an amendment for covering soap-stone workers also, but the hon. Minister had not agreed to the same at that time but had given an assurance that a separate law would be enacted to bring soap-stone workers under the Welfare Fund Scheme. Now, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to this. There are many soap-stone mines in my district where more than 50,000 workers are engaged but they are not getting the benefit of the welfare schemes. I want that government should enact some law soon for them also, so that they also get the benefit of it.

Recently, Government had taken a decision to revise the minimum wages for mine workers and an announcement to that effect had been made here also but I want to submit that it has not so far been implemented in our area where lakhs of workers are engaged in sand stone, soap-stone, china clay, mica and other mines. I approached the Regional Commissioner, Ajmer, who told me that he had not received any such circular and the employers also say that they have not received any circular. The announcement was made 3 or 4 months ago but it has not been implemented so far. Now, when you have revised the minimum wages, our workers must get the benefit of this revision. I want that your department should inform the Labour Commissioner about the revised minimum wages. Government get a bad name if such things are not implemented. Immediate action should, therefore, be taken in this regard.

In my Bhilwara district there are 8 to 10 Textile Mills. Besides there are vast areas having soap-stone, sand-stone, asbestos and many other minerals where the workers are engaged in a sizeable strength. The number of workers in my district is perhaps the largest as compared to any other district of Rajasthan, but they are not getting the requisite facilities. For instance, there was a Workers' Education Centre in Bhilwara which has been shifted to Jaipur. I do not mind its been shifted to Jaipur, the capital of Rajasthan, but in my opinion, as I had demanded earlier also, there must be an education centre at a place where the workers are in a large number. Hence, I request that an education centre may be set up in Bhilwara.

An Office of the Assistant Regional Labour Commissioner should be set up in Bhilwara. At present, the office of the Evaluation Officer is located there, which cannot cater to the needs of the area. There are day-to-day disputes between the employers and the workers and they have to go to Ajmer to get them settled as the Evaluation Officer there is not empowered to settle them. You have made a provision in your budget for an Assistant. Regional Labour Commissioner. Since the number of workers in Bhilwara is the highest, I would request that the office of an Asstt. Regional Labour Commissioner should be set up there so that the disputes between the labour and management may be settled.

You might be aware that Sikar, Jhunjhunu, Churu and Nagaur are the four districts in Rajasthan from where many people have gone and many are still going to the Gulf countries. There is no such office there which may stop the cheating of these people and the injustice being done to them and prevent the manipulators from swallowing their money. An immigration office may, therefore, be opened there immediately so that this office may be able to help these people and protect them from this kind of victimization. There is great need for this type of arrangement.

I want to make one more submission. I propose to open one more office of the Regional Directorate of Apprentice Training. You have already opened 5 offices and you are going to open the sixth in Hyderabad. Regarding the seventh office, you have not yet finally decided the place. I want to say about Rajasthan. You have opened such offices all over the country but no office of this Directorate has been opened in Rajasthan. You should open an office of the Directorate of Apprentice Training in Rajasthan so that the people there may get proper apprentice training and be able to earn their livelihood. There is imperative need for such an office there.

Regarding bonded labour, my submission is that you have done commendable work by abolishing this system, but I would like to know how you will ensure that the amount of Rs. 4,000 which is meant to be given to them for their rehabilitation actually reaches them. In the absence of proper monitoring of every agency, fraudulent means are adopted

and the entire amount of subsidy meant to be given to the bonded labourers by them banks is swallowed by the bank officers themselves. There is, therefore, need to see whether the amount of Rs. 4,000 meant for rehabilitation of a bonded labourer is actually given to him so that he is able to make his both ends meet. The economic conditions of many of the bonded labourers you have freed is very bad today and if they continue to remain financially handicapped, they will definitely go back to those very persons from whom you have freed them. You must set things right.

I would also like to make a submission about workers' participation and draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Labour towards this. Your decision on workers' participation in management is very good because with the cooperation of both the parties the institution will be benefited, but what is actually happening is just the opposite. In the public sector as well as in the private sector, there has been no workers' participation so far and consequently, the mills are incurring losses and the assets of those mills which are on the verge of closure have been transferred and the mills made sick. The main intention behind this is that the private sector people do not want that there should be workers' participation in the management. They do not want that the workers should know the day-to-day irregularities being committed by them and that they should draw the attention of the public and Government towards those activities so that action could be taken against them, and therefore, they are not allowing the workers' participation programme to succeed. If you honestly want that this programme should be implemented then the laws should be formulated in such a way that there remains no option for them and that workers participation is made compulsory so that both the employer and the employees together run the management efficiently and with this the evil of more and more mills becoming sick can be eradicated. This arrangement requires to be enforced in an appropriate manner.

I also want to submit that a new practice is obtaining now a days under which employers are getting work from the people in the name of apprenticeship even up to two years on payment of a wage of Rs. 5 per day and in this way these people do not get

even the minimum wages. There is definite need to pay attention towards these things and if you do the needful our friends from the Opposition will not be able to level baseless charges against Government, we have a progressive Government and Government have taken such steps as have benefited labour. I would, therefore, request the Labour Minister to implement the labour welfare programmes vigorously so that the workers get more and more benefits and make progress and contribute towards strengthening the Government.

With these words I support the Demands for Grants of this Ministry.

15.30 hrs.

RESOLUTION *RE* : CONVERSION
OF A.I.R AND DOORDARSHAN
INTO AUTONOMOUS
CORPORATIONS – Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up further discussion on the following Resolution moved by Shri M. Raghuma Reddy on the 19th April, 1985 :

"This House resolves that the All India Radio and Doordarshan be converted into autonomous corporations to ensure objectivity, impartiality and independence of the mass media."

Mr. Priya Ranjan Das Munsi was on his legs last time. He may continue.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI (Howrah) : The other day, while initiating the debate in this matter tooth and nail I opposed this Resolution, not in the sense that I am to oppose it, but on basic grounds which I would like to explain. I hope if I explain point by point the whole House will join me and obviously the mover of the resolution may think of withdrawing it.

First of all let me explain and let us all understand in this House the basic concept of the Indian democracy; and in that light the role and function of the radio and television as one of the major instruments of media operations.

As you know in our democracy we have an institution called Parliament where people's voice and views and ideas are exchanged. They come into light through the mass

media and they try to help the people to develop opinion on basic issues. We have an instrument called judiciary, in this democratic organ, where ultimately the interpretation of the Constitution and interpretation of the laws are explained. We have a text to operate all these things called Constitution. Our Fundamental Rights and various other Directives are very much clearly specified in pages after pages based on which people can understand the scope of their participation in the democratic functioning.

Now, I highlight these points not because I belong to the ruling party, but essentially because I consider that while we discuss this particular aspect of the Resolution we should first think that we are not essentially the party representatives, we first of all are real patriots and responsible citizens of this country.

Now let me highlight the text of the Resolution. The Mover of the Resolution highlighted three aspects—objectivity, impartiality and independence of the mass media. If we consider for example radio and television as major instruments of mass media, then, according to the mover of the Resolution, its objectivity, impartiality and independence must be preserved. According to him it is not being preserved now a days. He feels, therefore, that the House should resolve to consider that All India Radio and Doordarshan be converted into autonomous corporations.

Now, I would like to explain and I hope if I explain in that manner the whole House will join with me. For example in democratic countries, specially where the developing nations are there, their aspect of functioning in the mass media is such that the so-called democratic powers inherited basic malaise of colonialism and imperialism and are still persisting throughout the various parts of the world. Their dealing with the mass media are different than ours.

Now let me refer to the BBC and the Voice of America as a matter of example because these are two powerful mass media instruments of the United Kingdom and the United States. If I am not wrong, now-a-days it has become a fashion among many of the people to quote BBC and the VOA while trying to justify the concept of autonomy and independence of the radio and television in India.

I would very much be delighted if my hon. friend, the mover of the Resolution can substantiate with records, papers and documents the autonomy and independence of the BBC. The B.B.C. cannot still forget, and it has not yet forgotten, it cannot just believe that it is not a mass media instrument only, it always feels that it is after all a major mass media instrument in the United Kingdom which still feels that it can rule here and there in its own way.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the British Broadcasting Corporation can take up the matter independently what is happening in Punjab, can discuss the matter independently what is happening in Uganda, but never in the name of utilising the independence and autonomy it tried to highlight and differentiate the causes and sufferings of those people who still feel that Ireland should be an independent Republic and they can have their own activities in Ireland. I do not say it should be there, but what I say is, in the name of their own super independence they use this instrument in the global nature to condemn X or Y nations for their own design which suits the British diplomacy in their usual term of their old colonial rule to up-to-date behaviour, but they never tell independently and emphatically about the matter concerning the affairs within their country. Now, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, once this matter was referred, then it was stated that after all every Corporation will have to discuss everything independently but discarding national interest. If that is the national interest of Britain and is being served by the British Broadcasting Corporation as an independent, autonomous wing, what harm is there in All India Radio and Television which is now functioning absolutely objectively safeguarding the interests of the country? Why should our Members feel agitated? Our Members feel agitated for two reasons. I will give some examples of this. I feel, the Members do often feel that the radio and television only cater to the news as the spokesmen of the Government. I do not deny that fact. It is a fact that the Government report, news, items, Ministers' speeches, and Ministers' references are often quoted giving special priority to time in the radio and television. I do not dispute at all that thing and there if some members of the political party feel that their views and their news are sufficiently communi-

cated to the people through that channel, I do share their sentiments, they can easily feel that objectively and independently radio and television are not functioning.

Now, let me come to explain the point of independence and autonomy and the so-called objectivity.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please be brief.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : I cannot be brief ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have already taken 26 minutes.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : How can it be ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Last time you have taken 26 minutes.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : No, Mr. Deputy Speaker. You were not in the Chair on that day. On that day I spoke for one-and-a-half minutes and there was a quarrel and half of my speech was expunged.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I think you have taken 26 minutes.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Mr. Deputy Speaker. Sir, in fact, I am speaking today only. On that day it was a rehearsal of voice and counter-voice and nothing else.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, radio in India and particularly television in India—television in India operates in one channel and Radio in India operates through many many stations and I do not know any other part of the world which operates so many sub-stations and stations in one country as India is operating. It is not All India Radio, All India Radio means *Akashvani* news catered to by Delhi. It is not that. We have regional centres and sub-regional centres. Two types of things are to be explained through the mass media organisation—one is the news and the other is the views. So far as the news points are concerned, I think most of the Members are in unanimity that there is a wide coverage so far as news items are concerned, but I think the agitation is on the

point of views—on a particular issue the reaction of the A party or a B party or a C party, how it is related.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the B.B.C. during the Falklands war—and about B.B.C., as I stated, in matters of South Africa what role do the play ? Sir, a few footballers and a few cricketers two years before preferred to join the South African contingent to play the games. An interview was taken as to why they were going to play for South Africa. It was highlighted by the B.B.C. But the counter opinion that, due to the cause against apartheid, the cause against racialism, people want to boycott their going to South Africa, was not highlighted.

In this matter, in the London University itself, in the student campus, the debate was organised, 2 or 3 years before when Mr. Ardiles went to South Africa, BBC highlighted that aspect but did not give the parity of that news item which condemned Mr. Ardiles going to South Africa. It precisely gives the idea that in the name of independence and autonomy, the actual interest of the colonial ruler was sought there, not the interest of the people. In India and in many other developing nations which have just emerged from the bondage of slavery and exploitation, these small or weak parts are allowed to operate the independent radio and mass media stations, what will be the danger ? First of all, let us for a moment forget that there is All India Radio in India. Let us forget the Door Darshan in India. Let us think that some Corporation is there headed by X, Y or Z. You know that it is true that the developing countries, especially the third world countries, are facing every day a kind of assault from the imperialist and colonialist forces in many designs. Suppose a particular part of Tanzania or a particular part of Bangladesh or a particular part in India is in trouble to that extent which endangers the unity and sovereignty of the country, suppose there is an independent Corporation free from all controls of the Government and, if necessary, of the Parliament also, that Corporation engages people from abroad continuously to campaign, propagate the views in a manner which can incite the people to join and unite more effectively in order to satisfy the evil designs of the imperialist forces and other designs, what will happen? I am now referring to the incident Chile

One month before the date of the cruel assassination of Salvador Allende, it was not only over the nationalisation of mines that the trouble started but it started with the newspaper and radio station also. In their broadcasting system, Mr. Salvador Allende's speech was not sufficiently highlight related to the people. The objection was raised in Parliament of their democratic Government. Why was it so ? It was found that the people who are appointed there are having from that time their allegiance to the man who led the people of the nation. When Salvador Allende was not killed, half-an-hour before that, the news was broadcast that the people should be ready to revolt against Salvador. It was not my speech. It was the report of the Commission by Mrs. Allende who travelled the whole world after Salvador's assassination. The designs of imperialist agents and colonialist agents do often operate through medias. I am not blaming the newspaper. But the fact remains, throughout the developing nations, their counterparts and agents are actively engaged. In a country like India, Bangladesh, Tanzania, Nigeria and all the countries which are still struggling, not within the third world, but if all the countries join together, if their powerful instrument is declared as independent in nature free from the control of Government, I am sorry to say, it will not help ultimately the nation to prosper and advance.

I said the other day that Jagjit Singh Chauhan got the advantage to incite the people in London, specially the Sikh community because of the advantage of BBC, because of the advantage of Voice of America. If independent Corporation in India would have been there today, thank God, who takes care of the nation ? I do not doubt the *bona-fides* and integrity of any political party in Parliament, whether Janata, or Congress or C P I or CPI(M). I only feel whosoever come to rule the country, they take care of the media to that extent that ultimately they do not endanger the unity of the nation. That is the most important thing. Today when we are discussing this resolution, we are discussing about playing an active role when the basic unity is questioned in the country by certain forces which we know of. If you compare with BBC functioning and Voice of America functioning which ultimately operate not for United States and London but operate for clandestine operations, inciting people and agents outside

London and United States, if you compare in that angle, in this attitude, I am sorry we are misjudging the point and de-valuing the point of our mass media organisation. The point that I would like to make is this. Members may feel that news is broadcast or televised, but the views are not taken care of sufficiently. I would, therefore, make this suggestion to the hon. Minister. If possible, increase the time of the television and radio to that extent. During Parliament Session we discuss all kinds of major issues. During the Assembly Session we discuss almost all major issues. Please consider my suggestion. After every Parliament Session, you provide half an hour on the radio and give time to every Opposition leader to spell out the burning issues of the nation and also their opinion, if they want; and also provide an answer-session to the Government, both Centre and States, for another half an hour. It will establish a new democratic culture in the country. By that the agony and annoyance of some of the people can be taken care of. This is my first suggestion, and this is for both the States and the Centre.

Radio and Television are not merely to give you views on politics. They have to cover the social and cultural aspects also, including promotion of human values, education and science and technology. We may not think of producing atomic energy for the purpose of war, but we may like to develop atomic energy or nuclear energy for energy purposes, for peaceful uses. If there is an independent corporation and man is appointed there who is basically opposed to the philosophy of science and technology in the country, he may go on propagating a view which is against the basic interests of the country. We have two things in the country. We have the political interests, the interests of the respective political parties, and we have also the national issues where we are all one. If individual issues or party issues are opposed, I do not mind. But if the basis of the national issues are questioned every day, do you think it will help the country to grow ? On matters of communal harmony, we are one in the House. On matters of national unity, we are one in the House. On fighting imperialist forces, we are one. Our economic policies may be questioned by you. That is different. We may say that we are fighting for young people, they should be provided jobs, and all that; but you may have a different view,

That is a different thing. That can be given expression to on radio and television, but in a manner which will maintain the dignity of the radio and television. Therefore, my proposal is this. If you make it a wider issue, in the name of independence, objectivity and all that, then I may warn you that whatever is left in the country in the name of unity will be destroyed. You do not know how they operate. A single column article in the *Statesman* in Calcutta in 1965 led to huge communal riots. A single news item—I do not like to refer to the name—after the assassination of Shrimati Indira Gandhi by a news agency created havoc in some parts of the country. If these things can be done by a small thing, think of the dimension that an institution like this, if it is created, can do; every Tom, Dick and Harry will do whatever they like. What England can afford, what the United States can afford, India cannot afford. This, we have to understand. There we have to make the categorisation. That is why I have come forward with this suggestion.

Radio and television have to cover some wider aspects. Take, for instance, sports. Those who are Ministers, I do appreciate, do not find time to watch the performances; they have to obtain reports only from their officers. In the name of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru one unique thing was done by late Shrimati Indira Gandhi I remember, in 1980, it was she who initiated a few of us, "Why not bring the whole world in the field of sports through a tournament dedicated to Jawaharlal Nehru?" For the first time we started the Nehru Tournament in Calcutta. The West Bengal Government gave all the support to make it a success. It was the first international tournament and teams from Latin America and China came. Shrimati Indira Gandhi inaugurated it. This international tournament is increasing the prestige of the country every year. We never dreamt that world professionals would come and play in India. Forget about Latin America; we never thought that Russia would come and play in India. Last year in Cochin the soccer finals were between Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union. Thousands and thousands of people watched. But the television did not cover anything. The T.V. could have earned a lot of money because people from outside wanted to buy the time for their channels. I begged with the Television Department, but nothing happened. Similarly, the Federation Cup

is going to have the finals in the second week of May in Bangalore. We have made a request for live coverage. But they may not give it. If there is no time, why don't you increase the time? Sometimes they say that they do not have the camera or the screen. These are not the arguments to be given. You are not to project always the politicians. You have to project sports, music and social welfare aspects. But nothing is done. Sports, especially, is very much neglected. I request the Minister to constructively engage the young forces. You may immediately open a regular channel for sports in T. V. You immediately, start a regular channel for sports. In Calcutta a unique stadium has been built which is the pride for the whole country. It will be completed very soon. Important games are being conducted there. Another event is going to take place day after tomorrow. I do not know what arrangements the Doordarshan is making to project such events. These are important things. What wrong is there to have another channel for sports only.

Another point I want you to consider objectively. In India our literacy is low especially in semi-urban areas and villages. With our sense of maturity and with our Indian typical society, aping western society and allowing permissive things on the TV is not good. In the Western countries their culture is entirely different and even children with a cup of whiskey in their hands they enjoy the programmes along along with their parents. So you have to be very particular about the projection of films on the TV. Why do you do it? I can understand the parents after returning from office require some relaxation. You know the students have to complete their lessons for the examination. If you are to screen any movie on the TV, do it after 10 O'clock in the night. In every part of the world movies are shown after 10 or 11 or late in the night when children complete their studies and go to bed. You show your movie with all the obnoxious things right from 7.30. The parents will stop the children, 'Don't come, go and study your lessons.' But they will peep through the window or the screen. These are not helping our family culture, the typical Indian culture or the parenthood. You kindly do it after 10 p.m. What is wrong? If the children want to see, let them see after their studies. Or on every holiday you can have it at 10 in the morning. But you deliberately do it at

6.30 or 7.30. Nowadays children give full names of the heroes and heroines and all kinds of things. I tell you this is not helping us. Progress does not mean this kind of advancement which is spoiling our national character and values. I suggest to you to do it after 10 or 10.30 when it will be appreciated by the parents.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : After 10.30 you mean students will go to sleep ?

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : The students can see and they can afford to see. But why do you do it at 6.30 or 7.30 p.m. ? Then if you forbid the children, then they will make it a point to see it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : They will not go to sleep until we go to sleep.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : About the projection of films, I do not know what is happening in TV. Either they do not have money or they select.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now the time allotted for this is over....

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : We want more time. At least 4 hours we want. This is a very important subject. He has brought the subject. We want to discuss it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will fix 2 hours.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : 4 hours.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : For the present, we will fix 2 hours. Upto 6 O'clock we can continue this. Do you want to sit again after half-an-hour ?

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : No.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Then, let us fix 2 hours. Then we will see. Is it all right ?

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We are extending 2 hours just now. Mr. Priya Ranjan Das Munsi to continue his speech.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Nowadays through the movies you can educate the children I do not know who the selectors are. There are films which are

utter flops which are to be screened. But there are better movies which are given awards, which are very real I don't know why every month you don't make a fixed programme that at least one movie should be there, a kind of biography or a life struggle or something like that. There are so many stalwarts of our country. But nothing is shown. If there is an occasion relating to Shivaji Maharaj, they will show a little bit of it. If there is occasion of any particular great man's birthday they will try to show something. Why don't you make a calendar ? Every month you should show at least one movie which has some educative value to be screened. It is not there.

Regarding regional films there are many important regional films like Telugu, Malayalam, Tamil, Oriya and Bengali. I must appreciate especially the Malayalee films. Once upon a time we were proud of the Bengalee films. I must give my compliments to Malayalee film directors. In some films the standard is better than the Bengalee films also. With a little bit of dubbing why don't you screen that Malayalam film ? Why do you screen on the national programme Malayalam or Tamil film where there is no dubbing ? We cannot follow it. What is wrong to give a dubbing to it ? You could do it. There are very good Malayalam movies and this can be an exchange of ideas and things like that. So, this is about the films.

Now, about Music. Sir, you know that in our country people cannot afford to go to big cities and enjoy the music from the great artists paying huge amount. It is very difficult whether it is famous Lata Mangeshkar or artists like Anup Jalota. TV can take the responsibility to screen every month. There can be two types of things. One thing can be teaching the students in a particular gharana style for half an hour or so. On another day you may devote for any special or renowned artist, for his exclusive contribution either in instrumental or vocal music. What I say is this. I had been to China last year. I was surprised to see a very interesting thing in Chinese television. There were some songs and poems on the revolution led by Comrade Mao Tse-tung. What did they do ? Every month one programme should be there depicting the poetry and songs on the revolution. Based on the dream which the

leaders dreamt for China and what China today is, there is a comparative story. It is a unique programme. I enjoyed it like anything. On another day Chinese folk dance and folk culture coaching was there. It was shown in television. It was a training programme. They were dancing, training and explaining. One of such programmes I saw in the hotel room and the bearers and the stewards were giving a careful watch and they copied it. I came to know how great was their ancient culture in China. What is wrong in the great gharana of Allaaddin Khan after the great Tansen? I was asking a question the other day about Rabab music. A tape record has been lost. In Indian classical music today many students in classical songs do desire that at least one visual should be there of some eminent artists like Bhimsen Joshi or Ali Akbar Khan. He may teach once in 6 months, twice in a year to the students explaining the ragas and all these things. It will have tremendous educative value. Learners get benefit out of it. Many people can benefit. But nothing of this sort is done. Hardly any such programme is there.

There are interview programmes. Such interview programmes are there for hardly half an hour or 20 minutes. There are only Questions and answers. There are fair looking people of the TV centre; they talk and exchange their views and then the programme is over. It does not help. I sometimes feel really shocking when I see some programmes on TV. Probably they cannot hire the competent people. There are their own group of people in the TV and their relations. I have taken some photographs. On some occasion what they do is this. You will be surprised to know this. If you take the programmes of all TV stations and meticulously keep track of the photos you will find that 3 or 4 are repeated once in a year. They are the same faces. You find same faces in the annual function of TV. You find the same faces in any special function of TV, of course, with some different sarees and kurtas. Are you so incompetent even to bring people? Can you not bring some new faces? So, this kind of vested interest is operating in TV stations. This should be removed. I think the Minister will take note of this.

About the Youngsters, there is a programme in Calcutta Door Darshan. It is

'Youth Times' and in Bengali it is called 'Tarunderjnya' for the young people. This programme was very nice in the beginning. But nowadays the persons who perform those programmes, first of all, are not young.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : They are performing for the young.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Earlier the programme was by the young. The moderator I should say is more than 50 or 55. If these people who participate are considered to be young, then, God alone will help the youth of this country and the younger generation. What is happening is this. There are some vested interests in every television station. If your son or daughter is a talented one, he or she must go through the audition test. Then only he or she should be selected. What happens is this. There is a channel. There is a cameraman's lobby. There is the Producers' lobby. If cameraman's lobby is not cooperating with the producer then the production will flop. What they do is, they make an exchange programme. They say, this time you give 3 of your nominees. Next time I will give you nominees. In such mutual exchange, real talents are not coming. I told one day the Director of Calcutta Door Darshan, "Why don't you do one thing : Take the judge from outside for the Audition test." There should be a panel. They should say for the next 3 months these are the people who will be selected from the panel who will perform for Tarunderjnya programme and other programmes. They can invite people from the rural area. But they don't do it. They will call individually for audition; but they will not pay. Ultimately it is the exchange programme of the cameramen's lobby or producers' lobby which will prevail. This lobby you kindly destroy. If you want I can prove it. After Parliament session is over I can give to the Minister dozens of such examples where they are doing this kind of thing. If we want to attain objectivity this kind of activity must stop. It should not be done. I hope the hon. Minister will look it.

The last point which I wish to make is regarding interviews and debates. The only item I appreciate in TV nowadays is the Quiz competitions. They are very nice. They are effectively dealt with by efficient

people. Youngsters and even elderly people do gain a lot from hearing. Quiz competitions and Quiz question. What I suggest is this. When you conduct interviews and discussing in TV it is my feeling that we never get lively debates for one simple reason. Either you do it hurriedly or you compel them to go through a guideline. It is my experience. Now when a guideline is there, the moderator goes on pinking. The debate should not on like this. You may do it in a live manner. Don't do it burn. Otherwise it becomes very dull, if the speaker feels that either the cameraman will show the finger or the moderator pricking him because he is crossing the guideline. This kind of debate will never get life. So, you have to see this aspect also.

Sir, in the Radio also so far we have maintained the independence, objectivity and autonomy. I would only request the hon. Minister as well as the mover of the Resolution kindly to consider my requests and I would request the hon. Minister that after every Parliament session, he may consider providing an opportunity in case the leaders from the Opposition want to speak on any issue they like, for 15 minutes or 30 minutes and the party in power may answer the points raised by those leaders. Similarly, in the States after the State Assembly discussion, you can allow any Opposition leader or a particular political party to raise any issue they like and answer the points on behalf of the Government. If this kind of debate starts, I think the political leaders will be more responsible. I do not think that all of them will be like Mr. Tohra, or Mr. Longowal or Mr. Talwandi. There are patriots also and they will contribute effectively and the reason for the grievances which he has brought out in his Resolution will be over. I would therefore request the mover of the Resolution to withdraw his Resolution considering the seriousness of the situation in the country and not allow himself to be trapped, provoked or influenced directly or indirectly, by the agencies who are opprating mainly to disturb the unity of the country.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL). Sir, I am happy to announce Mr. Das Munsi will be happy to note and the House will

be happy to note—that the football match to be played between Qatar and Iraq will be telecast live on the 5th, on the national hook-up.

SHRI G. L. DOGRA (Udhampur) : Sir, I oppose the Resolution move by Shri Raghuma Reddy. I do not want to deliver a long especially after Shri Das Munsi who dealt with the subject very elaborately. He has given various arguments which could be taken as being in favour of the mover of the Resolution. He has suggested for improving and functioning of the Television and Radio. But, Sir, I would like to say that the reasons given by the hon. Member, who initiated the discussion on the Resolution are not convincing to me. I heard the debate on the Resolution and the arguments that were given in favoured the Resolution were so superficial, according to me, that nothing substantial was said in favour of the Resolution. If these media are made as a Corporation, it is not going to make it work efficiently not it will work with independent. It will create more complications, on the other hand.

Now, the hon. mover of the Resolution referred to Pandit Nehru's statement on Radio. What he said was that excepting in the matter of policy, for day-to-day problem it can be looked after by a corporate body. But, what is use of bringing it under corporate body? We have seen that Television would not have expanded as much as it is now it been controlled by a Corporation. The present expansion in TV in a very short period could take place because it has been under the control of the Government. We should feel proud of it and maximum expansion in TV network has been possible within a minimum time. I do not think that in many countries, this has been done. Therefore, I plead with the hon. Minister that we must not put TV in charge of a Corporation. If it is brought under the control of a Corporation, it will lead to so many red-tapism. It will face so many obstacles. Nowadays we want that both the media, Television and Radio, should improve very fast and they should be able to react to the situation that arises from day-to-day and that is only possible if it is run by the Government or by a Government Department. We know the situation around us. We want to keep peace with our neighbours,

and we cannot ignore as to what is happening around us. I do not want to go into details. But who can keep the nation informed about things that are developing? Who can tell the people as to what they should do and who can inform them of the dangers? It is only the network of radio and television that gives us a true picture. So, we cannot ignore the situation and we cannot disturb the arrangement that has proved so far so good and so progressive.

Regarding programmes, certain members have said that there should be some change in the programmes, whether it is picture or something else. We cannot ignore the fact that radio and television have improved very much during the recent months. These changes are possible only because the hon. Minister is able to take interest in it. He can also contribute more by giving instructions to the Ministry. He responds very quickly to all the constructive suggestions which come not only from the members of this House but from other quarters as well. These are the main things which I wanted to say.

There are educational programmes on both radio and television. I think the Ministry of Education is having a new pattern of education and to popularise it and also to help the open university scheme, radio and television can play a great part. I feel that this is not possible unless it is run as a Government Department. If you have a corporation instead, it will become difficult. This is another point which I wanted to highlight.

Originally radio and now television have given new life to writers. In my area, the language *Dogri* is only spoken and not much is written in the language. But then there was some awareness amongst writers and they started written in this language, which is till now only a spoken language. But now they are producing literature in this language and All India Radio in Jammu has done a great deal to revive the language, to revive the folklore, the folk songs and it has even helped to create new poets, new singers and new musicians. This is also true of Kashmiri and Punjabi and this is also true of many other languages. So, these are the things which can be done only because it is not a corporation. Once it becomes a corporation, you cannot even

open a single new branch of All India Radio or a new station so far as TV is concerned.

Even in the field of agricultural development, radio is doing a lot of service. It guides the illiterate farmers and illiterate peasants. The Ministry guides them as to what to produce, and how to produce programmes in various languages. This could be done only if there is coordination between various departments. Once they become corporations, their functioning would be sabotaged. As such, I request the mover of the Resolution to withdraw it.

We have just started developing Radio and Television. When we give suggestions, we can go upto a point. If the mover wants to stifle their functioning, he may press his point. Otherwise, he should withdraw it, since it is not desirable.

B. B. C. was quoted in respect of both Radio and Television. Some people listen to BBC, because they want to hear anything which is anti-Centre or anti-Government. Otherwise, BBC has nothing special about it. BBC gives an imperialist twist. It does not give any news, unless it serves its purpose. I feel that quoting BBC is not a very good thing. BBC is not a model. It is in Great Britain. There are other radio stations also. They say so many things. Naturally, I do not agree with them.

We should have only a departmental agency, and also an agency which gives news, and programmes on education and development activities and keeps us in touch with events. Therefore, I oppose this Resolution.

As far as foreign countries are concerned, our people living abroad, particularly, are not able to have access to AIR programmes or news channels. Our Ambassador in Moscow told me once that he could arrange for our news from AIR being relayed from the Moscow Radio, so that people living in that area could listen to what is happening in our country. But we should do something *i.e.* independently broadcast news, so that our people living abroad, *e.g.* in Europe, Scandinavian countries, Great Britain etc. are able to listen to our radio.

Our Government has done something for eastern countries, because probably it has some strong station in Calcutta from where news goes to south-east Asian countries. We

are a great country. People look to us for so many things. We should make arrangements to ensure that our people living in various countries get our news there.

As far as programmes on Television are concerned, educational programmes should be there. We should also increase the timings, if necessary. The duration of the national programmes shown in the newly-installed stations should be longer, so that people can see and listen to them and receive education and know things, because there is no substitute to Television. There is no paper, whether in English or vernacular languages, to substitute your T. V. and radio. Don't go by the opposition people, because whatever the government wants to tell, goes to them. Parties are not favoured by All India Radio and T. V. when they say great things about independence.

Recently, the Home Minister issued a statement on the Punjab; the same evening, there was a discussion on the T. V. Poor Shri K. K. Tewary was surrounded by three persons. One of the mediators looked like a provoker. If somebody says that there is no independence in your T. V. and the Radio, I feel, he is not in touch with what you are doing or he does not want to confess to it. After that statement, I was convinced. Poor Tewary was being lifted by them, three of them; one of them was my old friend, Shri K. K. Gujral and two Sardars were there. I don't think anybody would feel so much embarrassed as Tewary felt. I only say this because your institution is very independent. For God's sake, don't allow them to go beyond that. What I say was too much.

So, I support Mr. Munsii in having a channel for sports; it should be there. Programmes for children should be for longer hours and every educative ones, very interesting ones. With these remarks, I oppose the resolution, but through you I request the hon. Minister not to yield and go on improving on what your predecessors have done so that we want make T. V. and Radio A-one and see that they become so strong that people living abroad could also listen to us.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member wants Doordarshan to be converted into an

autonomous body. When he moved his Resolution and was expressing his views, I was thinking that after all what those considerations were on the basis of which he wanted Doordarshan to be converted into an autonomous body. Would he like it to be brought on the lines of the B.B.C. Would he like it to function like the B.B.C. which had broadcast the threat of direct action against the political leaders of a friendly country, given by certain elements working against that country? Or does he want to make Doordarshan a body like the one in the USA. I think perhaps every month some sort of malicious propaganda is made over the U.S.T.V. network against one or the other elected government. These kinds of bodies, whether they are in America or in Britain, subscribe the interest of the ruling party or some other class with vested interest is one way or the other. But in our country the situation is altogether different. It is surprising that even our communist friends support such a move and when they make such a plea, we are surprised and feel sad. To support their point, our friends from the Opposition have quoted the late Jawaharlal Nehru. The late Jawaharlal Nehru was a great democrat and he had said that in due course we could think of such an arrangement but our democracy was still in infancy and that we had different compulsions and challenges before us. Ours is a country full of diversities. Varied cultures, numerous languages, conventions and faiths exist in our country and we have to move forward keeping all of them together. In our country people can be sensitive even to the changing of the name of the All India Radio to Akashvani and in such a situation, if it is made an autonomous body, then a time may come when it may be managed by such people who may take decisions which may go against the interests of the country. Today, the clouds of grave danger are hovering over our country and there is also a danger from certain misguided people to the integrity of our country and, at this moment, a heavy responsibility has fallen on our Doordarshan and Radio network to create the feelings of oneness among our people. In 1962, when I was a student, Lata Mangeskar's song, *Ai Mere Watan ke logo* had created a feeling of oneness and a feeling of sacrifice for our country.

My friends have cited an example that the scenes of Smt. Indira Gandhi's funeral

procession were shown over the T. V. network. Smt. Indira Gandhi laid down her life for the integrity of the country. The enemies of the nation assassinated her. By showing her funeral procession, these media had done a great service to the nation and created a feeling of unity in the minds of the people. It had made them aware of what they have to do for the society and for the society and for their country I do not think such feelings can be created in the people after it is made an autonomous body and the proposed body will not be able to achieve this aim. Ours is a developing country which has adopted certain policies. We have certain abiding policies like the policy of non-alignment. It is possible that tomorrow the Chairman or the Director of the proposed autonomous body may not like this policy and may start speaking against it and in such a situation the entire nation will be put in an awkward and embarrassing position before the international community.

Secondly, we have to create an atmosphere of development in the country. When the Prime Minister or any other Minister inaugurates some scheme or lays the foundation stone of some project in Delhi or elsewhere, that function is telecast over the media and is seen by the people sitting in the far off places like Almora, Pithoragarh, Kanyakumari, etc. and they have a feeling of participation in the country's development. Also, efforts are on to expand and further develop the Doordarshan network. In this connection, there will hardly be any Member of Parliament who has not written to Shri Gadgil for installing a TV tower in his area and there will be many like me in whose area a TV tower has been installed but still I have requested installation of another TV tower in another district because the people of that district are angry with me. When we the representatives of the people considering it a necessity are putting pressure for getting more TV towers installed in our areas, we want that this facility should not be limited only to 70 per cent people, but it should be extended to cent per cent population of the country.

[English]

PROF. N. G. RANGA : There should be a TV set in every *Panchayatghar*.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Shri Rangaji

has rightly said so. We also want that in *Panchayatghars*, community TV sets should be installed so that the poor in the villages who cannot purchase TV sets may be able to view it there.

I feel that the conversion of the Doordarshan into an autonomous body will not help in its development. As long as it remains a Government Department, Government can exercise control over it. They can feel the pulse of the people rightly and guide it accordingly. Therefore, my request is that the Doordarshan should remain a Government Department. We need not copy any other country. We have to prepare our own model according to the requirements of our country. The present set-up of the Doordarshan and AIR is ideal keeping in view the needs of and the circumstances prevailing in our country. The times are changing. The present is the time of transition. Changes are taking place in the fields of science, technology, communications, etc. Therefore, I feel that unless there is hundred per cent official control over it, no Government and none of their policies, even the national policies, can succeed. I would, therefore, request the hon. Member who has moved this Resolution not to malign the media by being motivated by political considerations. Such things cause harm to the country. Kindly do not do any such thing which may cause a setback to the work being done in this sensitive sector or may create difficulties in the way in which this wing is functioning.

We are going to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of Doordarshan this year. It was started 25 years ago. The way you have rapidly expanded it during the recent past, particularly during the last one and a half years, Mr. Minister, I want to congratulate you specially for that. There should be no let-up in this programme and action to implement it should be taken speedily. But, at the same time, this thing should also be kept in view that Doordarshan does not get more commercialised. Advertisements which do not conform to our policies should not be accepted. Sometimes such amusing advertisements are telecast that one is surprised how these are being shown on TV. I want that money should not be the only consideration in accepting advertisements. They should be in consonance with our national policies so as to create an atmosphere of development, progress and unity.

Our attitude towards Doordarshan should not be determined by too much of departmental considerations. We should try to bring professional talent to the fore, who may have permanent association with it and whose interests may also be associated with it. Our TV programmes should be such that more and more people may like to view them. I think this can be done only when you bring in professional people permanently. Presently, casual artistes are being exploited too much whereas these people have played a very important role in making these media a success. I would urge that the interests of the casual artistes should be protected and as and when vacancies arise they should be absorbed against them permanently.

I want to raise one point here. Hindi is our national language and it is our national requirement to protect and promote it. It has been observed that Akashvani and Doordarshan discriminate between the two news agencies. They pay more for news-items of English language news agencies but pay less to the Hindi news agencies for the supply of news items. It is not good. If such is the attitude of a Government Department, then the people working in the field of Hindi and Hindi news agencies will be demoralised and it can have an adverse effect on them. The condition of the Hindi news agencies is already worse and they need your protection, help and sympathy. When they do not get even their due, I think it is not proper.

I had also read one of your statements about news agencies to the effect that you would not interfere much in their functioning. The Hindi news agencies, whether it is Hindustan Samachar or any other agency, are in a way financed by the State Governments and if they fail or get weakened, then our very purpose will be defeated. I would urge that you should look into this matter. If you do not amalgamate all the news agencies, then at least employ the workers of those agencies who are getting sick into the other agencies and pay them their salaries, fees, etc. In this regard at least, there should be a uniform policy.

My friends from the Opposition have raised two or three points. I have also one complaint and, as a Member of Parliament my complaint is that our media, particularly Akashvani and Doordarshan give more preference to the Opposition Members than

to those of the Ruling Party. When respected Shri Rangaji, who is an experienced person, gives some suggestion that is not given preference, but even if some such matter is raised during the 'Zero Hour' by our friends from the Opposition as has no relevance to any matter before the House, that is telecast or broadcast by Doordarshan or Akashvani in one way or the other.

16.38 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH *in the Chair*]

I would, therefore, urge the hon. Minister to at least tell us how much time is given to the Opposition and, in view of the vast majority of the Congress Party in our Parliament, how much time is given to the Congress Members, because an effort has been made to create a particular impression. We want to remove that impression.

With these words, I would urge that the way the work of development of the Doordarshan network is going on, it should be done with firmness and in the remote areas, sensitive areas and the border areas and these media should be further strengthened. You have expanded this network in the North-Eastern region on a priority basis. These are certain other 'Norths' also, there are far-flung areas and tribal areas. You should expand your network to those areas also. With these words, I vehemently oppose this Resolution.

[*English*]

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO (Koraput) : Mr Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the Resolution because the aims and objects which have been spelt out in the Resolution are not for the interest of the people at large. The AIR and TV will be being controlled by the Government. But it will not be possible for the Government to hand over to the Autonomous Corporation to manage it. I think the aims and objects which are given in the Resolution are not reflected properly.

We are not discussing this time regarding the Demand for Grants for the Ministry of IRB due to lack of time. Therefore I take this opportunity to express my views for development regarding television and radio.

Now I would like to comment on the resolution. The Verghese Committee made

nearly 216 important recommendations which were examined by the Government and most of the recommendations have been rejected. This resolution have been brought forward not on the basis of the recommendations of the Verghese Committee, the mover moved this resolution to propagate in the country that they want autonomy of the radio and television, but the Government is not accepting it.

We know that neither people nor the Government can control the role of the press because that is independent. They can play the role to impress, to express and to suppress according to their wishes in the name of freedom of the press and you cannot control or you cannot impose on them certain things according to your wishes. Likewise, once radio and television will be under an autonomous corporation, then, neither the Government nor the people nor the Members of Parliament can control the autonomous Body and persuade them to adopt certain guidelines for the benefit of the country, for the interests of the Government whichever party forms the Government. So, if this is the exact condition which we are seeing, then keeping in view all these aspects, I oppose the autonomous Body which the Member proposes in his resolution.

Now we can ask the Government to expand the network of radio and TV but we cannot go to the autonomous Corporation and say that you have to expand the radio and TV network. If the Corporation likes, it will do or if it does not like, then insist and compel to do so. Likewise, that apart there are certain drawbacks also. The drawbacks are mainly with the implementation of the information. The implementation of the information policy which is the main objective of radio and TV depends on infrastructure of the information network. I feel that before giving information to the people, we have to interpret what is the exact intention on the information you are giving to the people. We have to consider whether the information we are giving is important for the nation or not. We have to consider what impact it will make on the people of India. What is the intention behind our giving that information? These are the basic things which the country needs. If you ask the Government to follow certain principles

naturally the Government has to go by those principles, because the Government is made by the people, and that Government is answerable to the people. But the Corporation is not made by the people and they may not answerable to the people. This is an important infrastructure that we need.

Another thing is this. My hon. friends are saying that democracy is very important for this nation. We have also adopted it. In democracy, with what power do you fight injustice and have the grievances ventilated? In democracy, pen plays a vital role; the second is speech and the third is visual appearance. The information which is coming in the press is in a written form. The second, that is, speech, comes through radio. The third, that is, the visual part of the information, comes through Doordarshan. If these are under the control of the Government, then they can decide in what form, the visual, oral or written form the information should go to the people, and if there are certain drawbacks in these three things, certainly Government can take steps to change. But can you do it if it is made in autonomous body? If you give them certain guidelines, then they will say that the Government is encroaching on the freedom of corporation. Like that, there will be many problems if an autonomous body is formed, and it is not desirable for the country also.

Government should come forward and give top priority to cover the uncovered areas of the country by the television network and also radio. So far as TV is concerned, we have covered nearly 70 per cent of the areas. only 30 per cent is left uncovered and this should be covered during the Seventh Plan period. The uncovered areas are mostly hilly areas, tribal areas and backward areas. So far as the north-eastern region is concerned, a Master Plan has been drawn up in such a way that almost all the areas there will be covered. So, the 30 per cent uncovered areas lie mostly in Central India belt, some parts of the eastern ghats and some parts of the western ghats. These areas need special attention and they should be covered during the Seventh Plan in a phased manner.

In the case of radio, we have covered nearly 90 per cent. Only 10 per cent is left, out, and this also should be covered by radio. Why I am pressing this problem is because the Government have given priority for tribal

areas and hill areas development schemes and all Ministries will chalk out programmes and schemes. There is a sub-plan to develop tribal areas of the country. All ministries have to earmark funds for this purpose. If the tribal areas could not be covered during the Sixth Plan due to paucity of funds or because of any other reason, I urge upon the Government that this should be covered by tribal areas sub-plan schemes or the hill areas development schemes or the backward areas development schemes.

Before I conclude my submissions, I would like to request the Minister because he knows my area well as he has visited recently. We have a low power TV transmitter at Koraput. Its range is 25 km. But due to the terrain and the hills it is not covering 25 km. Same is the case with the AIR, Jeypore though it is called All India Radio.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you have it at Kalinga in Phulbani district that will serve the purpose. It will cover 3 districts, Phulbani Koraput and Ganjam.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : That is exactly what I would urge upon the Minister. As I was saying same is the case with regard to AIR. The name is All India Radio, but it is not covering even the districts. Tribal and hill areas are mostly left out. Neither the TV nor the radio gives proper coverage to these areas. In the North East region the Government have done a good work. There they have selected places to instal the high-power transmitters and they are tagged on to lower power transmitters. By this all the areas are covered. I request the Minister to instal TV on these lines in other hill and Tribal areas. I also want him to give his views while replying as to what he is going to do to cover the area uncovered by the TV and radio during the seventh plan and whether he is giving a thought to prepare a master plan to systematically cover all uncovered areas by allocating funds and earmarking funds and if necessary whether he can pursue with the other Ministries to provide funds to meet the expenditure so that almost all the areas will be covered before the end of the Seventh Plan.

With these words I conclude my submissions.

PROF P. J. KURIEN (Idukki) : I rise to

oppose this motion. The motion says that the Doordarshan and All India Radio should be brought under an autonomous corporation, as if, when it is made an autonomous everything will be all right and as if the corporation, mover believes that all autonomous bodies in our country are functioning well.

This opinion I heard a few years ago. I do not know why the Janata Party which came to power did not bring in a legislation to make it an autonomous body. When one is sitting in the opposition, one can really feel that it should be brought into an autonomous body. But suppose the same person is coming to power, then he forgets it. I do not know why a Member in the Opposition should feel so. Look at the time the Members of the Opposition get on the TV or ATR and the time ruling party members get. I would request the Minister to make a study on this. The ruling party has 401 Members in this House and the Opposition has less than one-fourth of the total. But, by any account, the ruling party should not get more than one-fourth of the time. But how much is the time that they are getting? You just see whatever is raised in the Zero Hour, the Opposition takes away a good part of the time.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : You are taking inside. You must take outside also.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Let me talk first about inside. Then I will talk about outside also. Whatever issues are raised here during the Zero hour, mostly those issues are raised by the Opposition Members and you find it mentioned in the TV. We are also raising, but we do not get that much of publicity as the Opposition people are getting. This very same TV and AIR—which according to them is controlled by the Government, is giving more publicity to the opposition than what is given to us. I want the Minister to Consider this aspect that even the AIR and the TV (which are under the Minister's charge) are giving more publicity, if not disproportionate publicity, to the opposition. What does it mean? It means that this department is functioning independently, in effect, it is an independent body. It has got the freedom within its framework to broadcast whatever news it gets or to eliminate whatever it does not want. It has got full freedom. It is not the case that the Government is giving any sort of directive to publish a

particular news or not to publish a particular news. So, this is the most important aspect. For this, I must congratulate the Minister and the Government. This is the best tradition that we have built. We inherited this tradition from Pandit Jawaharlal Nehruji, Indiraji; that tradition is being continued by us. Even though the AIR and TV are within the Government's control, yet we must take into account the fact that they are functioning independently. They are completely independent. They are not influenced by imperialistic or vested interests. What I am saying is this. You make it an autonomous body, what will happen? Will we have any control? Will the people have any control? Who will have control on that autonomous body? Consider the present situation. You know what is happening in our country. What is most important is the unity and the security

17.00 hrs.

of our country. At all costs we must maintain the unity and the security of our country. I wish to point out to you that AIR and TV help us very much maintain the unity and security of the country. They create the necessary awareness among the people about the need for defence and security of the nation. So, in this area, they are helping the nation. If these are converted into autonomous bodies, I do not know what will happen. You may be comparing with the British Broadcasting Corporation or some other Western media. What is happening, there, I would like to ask you. Are you prepared to copy all the things from the West? I am asking my Marxist friends and friends from the Opposition. How can you advocate that the practice of the western media should be followed here too? You know what happened in BBC. The BBC allowed the broadcast of Chouhan's statement that our late Prime Minister should be assassinated. When we asked them about it, they said, it is autonomous and all that. What I say is this. In Britain also, these Corporations are controlled by imperialist forces. They are being used by imperialists to achieve their designs. They have got certain designs. They have got certain ambitions. They have got their own plans about the third world. They have got their own plans for the non-aligned world and they are using their media for that. Not only that. These forces, these vested interests are trying to enter, to penetrate into our country.

Wherever possible they are trying to infiltrate, to inject their ideas in our country. Can you assure me that if it is made an autonomous body it will not be infiltrated by these imperialistic forces? What is happening in Sri Lanka? As you know, we say that in Sri Lanka, the Tamil population is being exterminated by the Sinhalese. But actually what is the reason? It is not just that the Sinhalese are trying to exterminate the Tamils. It is much more than that. What is happening is, these people are dancing to the tunes or acting according to the designs of the Imperialist forces. How did it happen? Because Mr. Jayawardane is helping the operation of these agencies there. Jayawardane declared that everybody who free to come; even Imperialists can come. The Israeli MOSSAD are operating there. The Voice of America is allowed to put of its transmitter there. These forces are working there. And what are their designs? We know them very well. Actually these imperialist forces are posing to be great friends of Sri Lanka. But what is the reality? The reality is, that they are trying to de-stabilise Sri Lanka. Their intention is not to bring the Cold War but Hot War to this region and real war to this region. They don't want India to develop and to prosper. They want to de-stabilise India. These forces are at work and they are very powerful. They have got very powerful weapons. We are conscious of their designs. If you make this media autonomous then one day you will find that this media has been infiltrated by foreign agents and then you may not be able to control it. Therefore, Sir, I would request the hon. Minister through you that this idea of making it an autonomous Corporation should be abandoned once for all. I would also request the hon. Member to withdraw his resolution.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Otherwise it will be defeated.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Another point is that India is a country of diversity. On the other hand, in the case of Great Britain, it is a unitary State having one religion, people speaking the same language throughout the country, having the same creed of people, the same colour—they will not tolerate any other colour of people. That is the whole problem. But what is the condition, in our country? Our culture is composite one. You will find a peculiar uniqueness in this

country uniqueness is unity in diversity. Therefore, to maintain unity in diversity the media should get the cooperation of the people having different cultures, different views and it should represent the people who speak different languages such as Hindi, Tamil, Telgu, Malayalam, etc. This is possible only if it is controlled by the national government or the Union Government which represent all the States. If you convert it into an autonomous body and appoint a Chairman bringing this body under his control, then this autonomous body will have to work according to this whims and fancies. We do not want that to happen. We want that the media should represent the people's wishes and aspirations. That can only be possible if it is controlled by the Union Government and not by the State Governments. Of course, the Minister is in charge of this body. But he is controlled by all of us, all the Members of Parliament represent their constituencies right from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, from Gujarat to West Bengal, Assam and Manipur on the eastern region and also the Union territories of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Every Minister is answerable to the Parliament and therefore he is indirectly controlled by all Members of Parliament. But if it is made as autonomous body, there will be one gentleman as the head of the body and there will be no supreme body like the Parliament to control him directly and he will not be controlled by the Government also. Of course, the Government will appoint him, but once appointed, he is free to do things according to his whims and fancies. I would therefore point out that this Resolution is a very dangerous one as far as the unity of the concerned.

Sir, in this connection, I would like to make a few suggestions. As I have already mentioned, the A.I.R. and the Television should try to foster unity among the people of the country, bring about emotional integration among the people. the problem is that the TV and the Government should get cooperation from different States. There has to be cooperation from different States more or less and then only emotional integration can take place. For example, as Shri Munshi was mentioning, you screen films from different States, from West Bengal, Gujarat, Kerala, from all the States. When you screen these films, there should be dubbed

into English or Hindi so that more people can understand them. When I come to Delhi, I have to stay two or three months for Parliament Session and I very rarely see a Malayalam film. At least once in a fortnight, a good Malayalam film should be screened and in order to make others understand, we should also have it dubbed into Hindi or any other language.

I should congratulate the Ministry for one thing. As a result of the wisdom of our late Prime Minister, nearly 70 per cent of our people are under TV coverage now. I request you not to forget the remaining 30 per cent also. By the end of the Seventh Plan, the entire country should be brought under TV coverage. In this connection, I would like to mention here that in the district of Pattanamthitta and in my constituency Idikki district, many people have purchased TV sets. But unfortunately, they cannot use them because it is not covered either by the Trivandrum transmitter or the Cochin transmitter. You are going to remove a low power transmitter from Cochin. I request that the low power transmitter which you are going to remove from Cochin may be installed in Pattanamthitta district so that that area also could be covered. Any in Idikki also, I request that there should be a low power transmitter installed. So please allot two low power transmitters for Kerala in the current year itself so that our area is also covered by TV.

I would like to make one very important suggestion. Now you have brought TV to 70 per cent of our people. As you know 35 per cent of our population is living below poverty line and these people cannot afford to buy a TV. Therefore, I suggest that Government should devise such a plan, which one community TV is installed in each Panchayat in the country. This is very important and I request that the I and B Ministry should take initiative and do it this year itself, so that our entire population will benefit. With these words, I strongly oppose the resolution moved by my friend Shri Reddy.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Mr Chairman, Sir, I take the floor to oppose the Resolution brought forward by the hon. Member from Opposition. I wonder what prompted my hon. friend from Opposition to bring such a resolution. Of

course, this matter has been discussed in different forms here in this House earlier and there have been many reports brought out on this. This is not the first time that we discuss it here. In fact, some years back, while the Janata Party was in power, they were talking loudly, they were very vociferous against the present system of working of our media, *viz.* Radio and Television. They wanted them to be under a corporation.

They were also very much against defections, at least in words. They were talking about an anti-defection legislation which they could never do during the lifetime of their Government. Congress is also against defection; and Congress is sincere about it. That is why in the first Session of this Lok Sabha, this Government could pass a legislation to that effect. So, had there been any basis or justification behind this Resolution, it was the Congress which could have come forward with the necessary Bill. But there is absolutely no basis and no justification behind this Resolution. So, I would like to oppose it, and oppose it with all the emphasis at my command.

It is regrettable that it has become a mania for a section of our people to undermine the working of our different systems and organizations working in our country, and to praise some foreign organizations. They like just following and copying such organisations or systems.

While talking of an independent corporation being placed in charge of our media, frequent references are made to the working of BBC and the Voice of America. But do the people who make such reference feel that the systems—social, economic and political—are not similar in England, India and America? Our systems are different, our situations are different and we cannot just copy any other organisation: be it BCC, Voice of America or any other organization functioning in any socialist country. We have our originality and our own systems.

As rightly pointed out by the previous speaker, our problem is the maintenance of unity amidst diversity, which is always threatened. In fact, I compliment this Ministry for the wonderful work that it does through Radio and Television, in maintaining the integrity and unity of this country. I fact,

our Doordarshan and Akashvani are symbols of national integration. In the course of the past few years, how much of expansion the Government has undertaken in this field? There has been a terrific expansion. What was the percentage of TV coverage earlier? It was less than 10% at the beginning of the 6th Plan. At the end of the 6th Plan, what was the percentage it has achieved? About 70%. What a fantastic growth! I put just one question to our friends in the Opposition. Could it have been possible if the Government had not taken interest; or if it had been managed by some independent organization? What sort of people could man this organization, what sort of relationship they can have with Government, what report they can have with the Government—all these things depend on so many factors. I wonder how they feel that everything working under the Government directly is bad, is wrong? How some organisations made independent of the Government control become all right, became ideal? Do they not see the working of the corporate bodies, municipal corporations, universities? Then why there is an increasing demand to take over such institutions in every State almost? In every State, universities are being taken over, municipal corporations are being taken over, because in some places, they turn out to be centres of corruption and inefficiency? How do they expect that the Akashvani and Doordarshan—if they are put to the charge of a corporation—there everything will be all right? What is wrong now? What is wrong with our system now which they want to remedy by changing its administrative set up?

There are different political parties in charge of administration in different States. There are radio stations also in their respective States. Do they not carry their programmes to the people? Do they not highlight the performances of their Government that are worth highlighting? What is their allegation?

After the budget speech here, the reactions of the members of all political parties not only the ruling party only were available through the radio. The number of opposition members who were approached by the T. V. and AIR was much more.

At the time of elections, there are so many political parties. Even there are some

sort of sign board parties which do not exist really, even those parties were given the benefit of conveying their views to the people through radio and T.V. If you take the time taken by the opposition parties and the ruling party you will find that the ruling party took just a fraction of the time what the opposition parties took. Most of the time is taken by the opposition here inside the House and also outside the House in the radio and T.V. Where is the allegation? What is their discontentment for which they are repeatedly raising the question from time to time sometimes inside the House and sometimes outside the House. This feeling should go and there should be some constructive suggestions. I was going through the debates and also the records and I have found and it has been proved with figures, with statistics that there has been never any injustice done to the opposition parties in terms of coverage in the media, Doordarshan and radio. Sometimes some lapse may be there. To err is human. But on the whole the present working of radio and T. V. it was weigh heavily in favour of opposition parties. The radio and the T. V. have a purposeful role to fulfil in over developing economy; they have to mobilise public opinion to support the plan of development. There are three functions of the media, Doordarshan and Akashwani : (1) to inform (2) to educate and (3) to entertain. In a democratic society, it has a very major role to play and it is also playing its role. Of course, there is always scope for improvement in every field. I don't say that we have achieved perfection; and naturally when we think that there is a perfection, then there is a danger. That we cannot go beyond that. The hon. Minister should also see that the radio and T. V. are effective instruments of education in our society. When about 70 percent of our people of this country are still illiterate and also below the poverty line, we have to get them involved, rural people, people from far flung areas which we cannot cover, because there is no communication, road communication; trains also do not go there in the voyage of our development.

At least we reach them through Akashwani and T. V. They have reached the people. There should be close coordination between different wings of health and the education Ministries with Akashwani and Doordarshan in their programmes for the people.

Of course Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru some

times said that he would prefer a semi-autonomous corporation : not exactly autonomous corporation. "But at the appropriate time", he hastened to add. What is the that appropriate time ?

What is the social order achieved so far in this country ? Is the climate congenial for that ? Some times, even we also feel that it may be better, if an autonomous corporation is there. But on a careful scrutiny, careful examination and a careful consideration we find that it will not be better—rather, it may be worse !

You see BBC; how it has caused embarrassment to the U. K. Government on several occasions. Recently Jagjit Singh Chohan the professed leader of Khalistan he went on the media. He went to the BBC and advocated Khalistan and caused embarrassment to that Government and the Government had to say that they had no control over BBC. The BBC and VOA do not have the same standards towards all the problems. They have one standard for their own internal matters and another standard or approach towards the outside world. This is bad. We cannot have similarly two standards. VOA people say that they are independent, that they can criticise anybody. But what is their approach to the freedom movement in South Africa ? What is their approach towards the apartheid ? What is their approach towards racial discrimination in America ? So many things can be asked like that. Therefore, we should be proud of our own heritage, our own originality, and we should develop our own system, keeping our own situation our own requirement in mind. We need not have to follow some other system, some foreign system.

Now Parliament has, as the hon. Members have said earlier, considerable. But in case there is an autonomous organisation Parliament will have no control over them. Do they want it that way ? In a country like India Parliament is represented by all sections. In a vast country like this, do they feel that it will be useful, where unity is the consideration ? Unity in diversity is our country's speciality. If we form a corporation Parliament will not have any control over the autonomous corporations. Now we can take the Minister to take about any evils in the working of

our Media. If a corporation is formed, what can we do? We can ask the Minister and an alibi can be rightly taken by the Minister that he has no control over it. Is that what we aspire for?

Again, we are still developing. It is All India Radio. That is, all over India these programmes have to reach. They have yet to reach all over the country. Something is still lacking and in the field of T. V. also we have to cover further ground. Naturally, that requires lot of money. Our Government is providing the money, as it is directly dealing with media. In U. K. that Government is not able to deal with the B. B. C. Presently, our system of working is better and Government is able to deal with the Media. I would say that the role of the private bodies in the country is far from satisfactory. There is always a demand from different sections at different times to take over the private bodies.

Then so many programmes like the Janavani have been introduced. People love these programmes. They appreciate them very much. They have a direct communication with the Minister. They are putting questions to him and are getting answers and the people of the country are able to know all these through this media. Moreover, if there are lapses they are also brought to the notice. Government should go ahead with such programmes.

This year we did not have an opportunity to discuss the demands of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. So, naturally when we get an opportunity we have to place some of the problems before the Minister.

First of all I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Hon. Minister and particularly our late lamented Prime Minister who did a lot in expanding Akashwani and Doordarshan qualitatively and quantitatively. I would also suggest that a broad-based advisory committees should be set up in different stations in order to make the AIR and Door-Darshan programmes more interesting and useful.

With your permission I will narrate a bitter experience of mine in this regard. About two years ago I got a letter from Doordarshan Kendra, Cuttack, saying that they had constituted a programme advisory

committee and they were kind enough to indicate that I was a member on that Committee. But till today that committee has not met. I once received a notice for attending its meeting, but while I was getting ready for the meeting. I got a telegram saying that the meeting had been postponed. After that I did not get any communication from them. So, my request is that such committees should meet frequently and that they should be broadbased having members from the Opposition parties and from the cultural life also so that the programme serves the largest interest of the country and that there is no cause of complaint from any quarter. What is the politics about these programmes? They are the people's programmes. They are simply for the unity and integrity of the country and it is to help the process of development that is fast taking up in this country besides entertaining them.

I would also suggest that some accountability should be fixed with particular officers. Some officers are heaving like 10 kds. I would request the hon. Minister to devise ways and means to fix responsibility and accountability with appropriate power given to the local authorities.

I had also earlier put some questions and discussed with the hon. Minister regarding any States problems. Sambhalpur, in Orissa, is the first place to figure in the Doordarshan programme in the country. About a decade before the programme had started there. But surprising thing is that the Sambhalpur studio and transmitters are situated 300 kilometres apart. It is quite fantastic. Transmitter is there in Sambhalpur. But the studio is in Cuttack. This studio is meant for Sambhalpur, but it is 300 kilometres away from there. Of late the authorities are looking for talents only within 40 kms. radius from the studio. I am also given to understand but it is very difficult to tap the talent in from Sambhalpur area and moreover, the programmes of this area are telecast after one month or so. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister kindly to set up a studio in Sambhalpur and also a high-powered studio in our capital city, Bhubaneswar. Low power and high-power transmitters should be installed in Bhawani, Patna Berhampur and in Rourkella, so that greater number of people in the State can have access to the Doordarshan and AIR

national programmes. I also request the hon. Minister to start a news unit in Sambhalpur. Besides more and more programmes should be broadcast and telecast in local dialects enabling the people to understand the programmes fully and to generate the feeling of involvement in the national affairs.

With these words, since you are ringing the bell, I take my seat. I conclude my speech opposing this Resolution with all the emphasis at my command, and while complimenting the Minister, I would request him to further strengthen the system and to plug whatever loopholes are there in the system.

SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL (Phulbani) : Sir, you and I represented to the Prime Minister to establish a T. V. centre at Kalinga Ghat in Phulbani district, Orissa, which will serve three district viz. Phulbani, Ganjam and Koraput. There is no T.V. centre in Phulbani. The Phulbani district is a Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes area. It is a tribal belt. Further, when the TV centre was opened at Berhampur, you presided over the opening day ceremony as a Minister and also requested the Government of India to have a TV centre at Kalinga Ghat and a radio station at Berhampur, Ganjam District in Orissa.

Through you, I once again request the hon. Minister to open a TV centre at Kalinga Ghat in Phulbani District and a radio station at Berhampur.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN (Badagara) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for providing me this opportunity when the House is discussing this very vital matter of autonomy for Doordarshan and Akashwani.

Sir, the form and content of Indian broadcasting has undergone dramatic changes during the last four-and-a-half decades of its existence. It was in 1941. I think, this Information and Broadcasting became a Department of its own because of the requirements of war propaganda, and it was during the war that we were able to make the headway in broadcasting and when we became independent, I think we had about 9 or 10 broadcasting stations. But as in other fields it must be said to the credit of Shri Jawaharlal Nehru that he underlined the importance of this media of broadcasting and while speaking in the Constituent

Assembly itself he had clarified that the form of organisation that he had in mind was a semi-autonomous organisation and he had made it very clear during those years that an organisation, something similar to the British Broadcasting Corporation, ought to be our aim, may be the time was not opportune, but I have had occasion to find, while going through some of the letters, that Sardar Vallabhai Patel, who held this portfolio initially did not favour this and then Panditji's ideas had to be given up at least for the time being. Therefore, in subsequent years also the idea of autonomy was very much in our minds because with the rapid developments in technological fields, particularly in the field of communications there was a feeling amongst intelligentsia that this was a medium which can be misused. I do not want to allege anything or refer to our present problems or predicament, but all this led to the appointment of the Chanda Committee in Sixtys, I think it is in 1964 or so that it gave its report. It is very clear from the demand and appointment of this Committee as well as the recommendations of this Committee that the idea of autonomy had developed and gained acceptance of the country as a whole. But in 1970, while the Committee report was discussed, it was felt that it was not the opportune time to go in for this change because there was an increasing realisation that a media like broadcasting—which was relevant then because it was before television came to India—could only be managed by a fair degree of autonomy and also in a country like this because we have a tremendous problem of communications in this country. Therefore, before we go into different aspects of autonomy, the problem is whether we have a communications policy.

I would urge upon the hon. Minister to outline a communication policy. I would want him to come forward with a White Paper on his Government's ideas and intentions before we go into the structure, form and content of autonomy. It is very important because after Chanda Committee recommendations when it was felt that it was not opportune time, there was some demand at that time for further changes being brought about in the structure of All India Radio. But then came the period of emergency. Without even discussing various associated questions of how the media was

misused during the emergency, I would only like to recall that the AIR had worked out a Code. From 1947 to 1975, there was an AIR Code which was effectively utilised even by the Government. But that Code was sought to be replaced by the then Minister for Information and Broadcasting which proved to be a disaster. Therefore, I would want him first to outline a communications policy for the country through a White Paper or through other pronouncements and preferably through a White Paper. It is very important in the sense that we have certain basis differences from other small countries which have experimented the problem on autonomy of its television as well as broadcasting.

I must go back to history. For the last 500 years, in the history of this country or even the sub-continent, there have been powerful assertive regional forces and cultural forces as well as assertive linguistic cultures which have developed. In many cases, they have acquired a distinct national identity. When I say national identity, please do not misunderstand me. I am using the word in a particular connotation, identity of their own and it is very important that the communications is primarily admitted within this homogenous groups. That has been a problem in India more than anything else. With our own low levels of literacy—you are aware that we have more illiterates today than in 1947 in terms of numbers in spite of increasing percentage—these two mediums by which you transmit messages and communication through visual images or through spoken words acquires importance.

Therefore, it is very important that we outline a strategy for communications for the next 15 years when by 2,000 we will have at least covered 40% of the TV and I presume that at least 80-90% will have their broadcasting receivers.

Similarly, the concept of autonomy which has been gone into by the Prachar Bharati Committee of which, I remember in the Select Committee I was there, needs to be reviewed also. While the idea of autonomy is very desirable, I am not saying that there is no alternative to autonomy. If we are to retain our democratic structure and if we are to retain the unity of the country, then autonomy of these medias are very important. Therefore, what I am saying is that, if the

national communication set-up has to have credibility, accuracy as well as perspective, then it must gain autonomy. But before autonomy comes, it is very important that we must clarify our own ideas, the Government must clarify its own ideas about the communication set-up.

SHRI C. P. THAKUR (Patna) : Sir, I rise to oppose this demand of the Opposition regarding setting-up of autonomous corporations for TV and radio. It appears that the demand of the Opposition is born out of frustration, despair and loss of hope. Any Opposition which has some ambitions will not indulge in such things. Every country, at a particular time, defines its aim, and to achieve that aim, it has to fix certain priorities. There, the Opposition also has some functions to discharge. At the moment, the aim of our country is to grow strong financially, industrially and in every respect. To achieve that aim, our radio and television have to play a very important part. We have to consider at what stage are our radio and television. They are in a growing stage; they are rather in an infancy stage; they have yet to grow. So, as one of my hon. friends, said, the time is not ripe for making them autonomous. After they have grown, then we can consider. At the moment, this department should be under the control of government so that it helps in achieving our national objective. Radio and TV have to project the aspirations of the people and they have to develop fully. For example, one of the major problems today is family planning. Radio and TV can be utilised very well to popularise this programme. But we are not doing it. I will cite one example. In the USA, one night electricity went off and the people did not see the TV. This resulted in a baby boom. In our country also, in the night we can have more interesting programmes and thus we can control the growth of population. We can also give population education through TV. We have introduced certain good programmes, but better programmes can still be introduced for the education of our school children, college students and also for students at the university level. We are talking of science and technology. The complexities of technology can be explained through TV.

At the moment we are surrounded by some adverse conditions internationally. Somebody mentioned about Sri Lanka; they

have the Voice of America; they have implanted very powerful transmitter there, and the projection of India in foreign countries is not good. We are projected as a country of snake-charmers. Our radio is not able to counter the Voice of America or the BBC. This Department, in consultation with the Ministry of External Affairs, has to develop a very powerful voice, the Voice of India, so that we can project our correct image to the outside world.

Now, coming to examine the structure and functioning of the radio and television, are we unjust to the Opposition ? No; we are not. They perhaps feel jealous because they see that the Prime Minister is projected when he is inaugurating something, the Ministers are projected when they are inaugurating something. But the Opposition has not realised this fact that the Prime Minister, after he has become the Prime Minister, is not Prime Minister of a particular Party but the Prime Minister of the whole country. And the country wants to see the Prime Minister and it wants to see the functioning of the Prime Minister and in that function wants to judge the capacity of the Prime Minister or the Minister, whoever is portrayed. Take for example USA. During the Presidential election there was a debate and during the debate people judged who was the better candidate. So all the time people are watching you on the television. They are also criticising you. I remember during the election time one of the Opposition Members spoke very well on the TV and all the listeners were saying that he possibly spoke better than others. In our country there is no one opposition, there are many. You know the audio-visual method is certainly a better method for making an impression. So the Indian people see many opposition parties compared to one ruling party on the television and they also judge the performance of the performers there on the television. So actually the opposition should not feel jealous about it. I am not of the view that as we are in majority, we should get more time. I am of the view that even if we are in majority, equal time should be given to the opposition. I am therefore surprised that friends from the other side who believe in controlled system of democracy, are pleading for copying something from the imperialist country. They mentioned BBC. I also frequently

hear BBC and I will tell you how they twist the things. One of our matinee idols who is at present a Member of Parliament was very ill. I was in the United States. At that time the BBC said that one matinee idol of India who is very popular among the Hindus was ill. Actually in our country a particular scientist if he is popular, we do not say that he belongs to any particular community or religion. This is the mentality of BBC. They have a knack of twisting things. They take very great care about their own country but when it comes to other countries they twist things according to their advantage. One should be very blind in saying that we should copy BBC.

Our Department is doing very well. There is also scope for improvement. Somebody said about sports. I will suggest something more. There is no dearth of talent in our country. When competition takes place in hockey, cricket, etc. and when they are shown on the TV, our experts should watch them and they should report to the committees or to the government of India and the Government should take note of that in selecting the players etc. for national and international events.

Similarly, radio and television should also broadcast programmes on the culture and reformers and saints of the different parts of the country more frequently than they are doing now. If I belong to Bihar or the Hindi belt, we should know the culture of the Tamils, we should know about the Malayalam saints and reformers or something from east or Bengal or Mizoram and other places. It should do its bit for national integration.

So a lot of things, I think could be done by radio and television and this is the time they should improve and a lot of things are needed and this is not the time to discuss that it should be made a corporation...

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time allotted for this item is over.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Extend the time by one hour.

SHRI C. P. THAKUR : Functioning of many corporations is not upto the mark and the Broadcasting Department is doing wonderful work. I suggest that the Opposition should withdraw this resolution.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore) : Mr. Chairman, Sir I rise to oppose this Resolution moved by my hon. friend Mr. Reddy. Why I am opposing this Resolution is this. The wording of the Resolution is this. It says :

"This House resolves that All India Radio and Door Darshan be converted into autonomous corporations to ensure objectivity, impartiality and independence of the mass media."

The first question is whether they function with impartiality and independence or not. From that point of view I am asking the Mover of the Resolution, while he will reply, kindly to explain in which way this media is not independent and is not impartial. I have gone through the speech of the Mover of the Resolution. The hon. Mover of the Resolution and even some hon., Members of the Opposition who have supported this Resolution, have, in a nutshell, told us that the system existing at present is not impartial and is not independent.

Before we go to impartiality, now let us see how the AIR and Door Darshan are functioning and how they can be made more independent. Now, the present system is that there are certain officials who run the media of AIR and Door Darshan. If they are converted into corporations, they will discharge their functions through some officials or whoever they may be. Those officials nowadays might be serving under a particular Government. After being converted into autonomous or independent bodies, whatever my hon. friend may say, those officers may not be there but some other officers may be there. They will run the media. Those Officials will be serving under a Corporation or whatever it may be. You may name it Corporation or anything else. That Corporation will also function through a Governing Body or a Management Body or a Board of Directors. Who are those Members ? There is no electoral college to elect those members who will be functioning as Board of Directors or Board of Management or whatever it may be called. That means, the Directors will be nominated by the Government which is a party Government. As you know, our Constitution provides that in the States as well as in the Union level, we will have party Government.

Today the Congress-I is in power; but after some time it may not. Some other party may be there. Perhaps my hon. friend Mr. Reddy might be thinking that they will never come to power; and so, let us have autonomous bodies like these; this Congress-I will remain in power for one century to come. From that point of view only I would say, if the particular Government nominates persons to the Board of Directors, who will be those nominees ? Is there guarantee that they will not be political men ? That is one thing. Another thing is this : In a democracy like ours, every citizen may have some political affiliation; it may be this party or that party, whatever it may be. Now I wish to cite how 2 or 3 corporations of our country are functioning. We have gone through the functioning of the State Electricity Boards.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member may continue next time. Now we will go to the next item—Half-an-Hour Discussion.

18.01 hrs.

HALF AN HOUR DISCUSSION

[English]

Location of Industries in No-Industry Districts in Orissa

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now the House will take up Half-an-Hour Discussion.

Shrimati Jayanthi Patnaik.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI PATNAIK (Cuttack) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am glad that this subject has been taken up for Half-an-Hour Discussion today.

Sir, the main thrust of our Industrial Policy is the eradication of regional imbalances. The scheme of setting up industries in No-Industry District is intended to cover more and more areas in the country and to prevent their concentration in town and city areas. When I say that we will have to remove the regional imbalances, I must point out that Orissa has been totally discriminated with regard to the identification of the areas. Economic backwardness should be taken into account. Orissa has three non-industry districts. Many more districts are left out which are backward and tribal also. There are some districts where more than 50% of

the population is tribal people. We should also take into account the 'Block' instead of the 'District'. The Sivaraman Committee Report says this. I would like to know why this Ministry has not taken so far the 'Block' instead of the 'District'?

The Minister replied that day that this scheme was to expire on 31-3-85, but it has been extended upto 31-3-86. We are really glad to know that. I must also point out this, that the Minister has said that an Inter-Ministerial Group is being constituted to review this scheme. I must say that first of all, only for two years, that is, from 1983 to 1985, this scheme has been in operation. Now it has been extended by one year. I would like to ask, why this review has not been undertaken every year. I think that the Inter-Ministerial Group should review these things, now that it has been constituted. While doing the review, they should also take the cases of regional imbalance of Orissa and they should see how to cover more areas *i.e.* more blocks. They should take the Block instead of the Districts. In order to encourage entrepreneurs various concessions and subsidies are given to set up industries in no-industry districts. In spite of this we find that industrial houses are not coming up to set up industries in no-industry districts. This is the position and we must know that. Now, Sir, what is more important is the preferential sanction of the letters of intent to these no-industry districts and also the higher package of financial incentives to new industries in these districts. I feel, unless a conscious policy is followed in this direction, nothing can really be achieved. I would also like to say here that none of the licences meant for Phulbani and Bolangir has materialised. The other day I had asked a question; the hon. Minister had replied saying that during 1984-85, 6 letters of intent were granted. In this connection I would like to know from the Minister the period and the time taken for clearing of those 6 letters of intent. I want to know what the usual time is for clearing the letter of intent and whether any special preference is given in case of 'no-industry' district. I am saying this because you have not taken complete Five-Year Plan period and you have taken the first two years and then you have extended one year. Now, within three years, if you don't clear the letter of intent, as early as possible you will know how this scheme could properly be implemented. Sir,

I would like to know from the hon. Minister what industries are banned even in the case of 'no-industry districts'. I am told that Vanaspati trade and flour mills were banned in 'no-industry district.' I do not know what is the reason for this.

Sir, Keshoram Cotton Mills had applied for sanction in Bolangir. I do not know whether the Keshoram Cotton Mills have been given the letter of intent. It is also not known when it has applied for it and when the letter of intent has been given to the Kesho Ram Cotton Mills.

Sir, I now come to the question of infrastructural development. When I talk of infrastructural development, the question of power comes. Sometime back, Orissa was the surplus State in power production, that is before the Sixth Plan. It has increased the power requirement at the annual rate of 20% during the last five years due to the accelerated industrial activities. The power shortage has now become a phenomenon all over the country. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what action he will take in tide over the power difficulty. What action his Ministry is going to take in this regard? There should be coordination between the Power Ministry and the other concerned Ministries to ensure continuous supply of power to the industries in these districts. But I know that the hon. Minister would say that so far as the infrastructural development is concerned, it is the State Governments concern to look into that. But I would like to submit that at present power shortage is prevalent all over the country. The Orissa State Government alone cannot take any action to meet the immediate requirement of power. I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that he may kindly consider increasing the power production in Orissa State by installing new power plants. This Ministry will have to impress upon the Ministry of Power for sanctioning these projects. At present, the Central Government has allocated an amount of Rs. 2 crores only for infrastructural development in 'no-industry districts'. This amount is very very low as compared, to the infrastructural needs in the 'no-industry districts'. Orissa State has 3 'no-industry districts', namely, Balasore, Bolangir and Phulbani. Phulbani has no railway lines. Balasore has no water supply facility. To get a pipe line from Mahanadi to Bolangir, it would cost nearly Rs. 20 crores. In fact, many industries have turned

away from Bolangir because of lack of water supply facility there. For construction of railway lines, roads and provision of water supply facilities, it would cost a lot of money. Even if other infrastructural developments can be looked after by the other State agencies, I would like to know from the hon. Minister about his proposed action in regard to the Railway line construction and the power supply arrangements and other infrastructural facilities. Another point is that when the infrastructural development is considered, I would like to point out that the State Government's matching contribution of 2/3 share is a heavy burden on the part of the backward States like Orissa. As it is, there is no infrastructural facility available in many of the districts in Orissa and the State of Orissa is already on the map of backward State. So, I would like to know whether the Government would consider to waive the State Government's matching contribution of two-thirds. Otherwise, they should make two-thirds on the part of the Central Government and one-third contribution may be made by the State Government. I also request that the central assistance for infrastructural development should be raised to Rs. 10 crores. Otherwise, with this infrastructural deficiency and with the limited resources of a backward State like Orissa, how will the Government attract industrial houses to go to the no-industry districts? Do Government have any other specific thoughts over this?

Sir, I have expressed my apprehensions in my earlier supplementary question about the setting up of industries by MRTP Houses. Earlier, MRTP Houses were compelled to set up industries in these 'No Industry Districts', due to the policy of lifting of restrictions on these houses for getting industrial licences in these districts. Now that the MRTP limit has been increased to Rs. 100 crores, many industrial houses have gone out of the purview of MRTP Act. As such, they are free to locate industries anywhere. Why would they come to a non-industry district where no infrastructural facilities are available? I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this would affect the industrialisation of these no-industry areas. The Minister may answer that various subsidies and concessions are being given to the industrial houses so that they would go to the no-industry districts. This policy has been announced only recently and I had not

much time to review it, but I have already expressed my apprehensions on this.

At present the capital subsidy is limited to 25 per cent subject to a maximum of Rs.50 lakhs. This limit, I feel, has to be raised to Re. 1 crore to attract the big houses to set up industries in no industry districts. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister will consider this.

Sir, I strongly feel that these no-industry districts should be developed and industries should be set up in these areas at any cost. I also request the hon. Minister to see that more and more districts and more blocks are covered by this 'no-industry' criterion and more industries should be set up in those areas so that the regional imbalances will be removed. I conclude with these words.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : Sir, the hon. member has raised many points about industrial backwardness with particular reference to the State of Orissa. She has also alleged that Orissa has been discriminated against. I can only submit that the allegation is not based on facts. In December 1969, the Planning Commission had suggested guidelines to be adopted by State Governments for identifying districts as industrially backward. The identification was to be made by the State Governments and not by the Central Government. There are five or six guidelines according to which 246 districts were identified as industrially backward to become eligible for concessional financial facilities. Out of these, 101 district were further identified for benefits under the Central Investment Subsidy Scheme. In November 1981, at the instance of late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, an identification was made on the basis of Action Plan prepared by the District Industries Centres of all the districts in India which do not have a single large or medium scale industry. Ninety such districts were identified and placed in category 'A' viz. No-Industry Districts. Again, I would like to point out that this exercise was undertaken by the District Industry Centres, which are under the administrative control of the State Governments. The districts which were identified as No-Industry

Districts, whether in any other State or in Orissa, were so identified by the State Governments, not by the Central Government.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :
I know it, but what about the blocks ?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN :
In 1981, the district was a unit, as pointed out by the hon. Member. The National Committee on Development of Backward Areas, *viz.* the Sivaraman Committee had suggested the idea of growth centres. They had also suggested that tehsil be taken as a unit, or a block be taken as a unit. My senior colleague, Shri Veerendra Patil has already announced in the House, I think while replying to the question of the hon. Member, that the present scheme has been extended for a period of one more year. In the meantime, an inter-Ministerial group is being constituted, which will make its recommendations, and a final view can then be taken if we want to bring in changes in the present scheme, so that we can get better results.

So, the scheme is under review. A committee is being constituted. The hon. Member's suggestion has been noted, and I am sure it will be taken into consideration.

The hon. Member has in the same vein asked : why has it been extended for year ? It has been extended for one year, so as to enable us to undertake a review.

The very purpose of the scheme is to remove regional imbalances. The scheme was devised, not to distribute favours to various States. The purpose of the scheme was to ensure development of industrially backward areas. The purpose was to attract industries to the areas where there are no industries.

18.18 hrs.

[**SHRI ZAINUL BASHER** *In the Chair*]

That was the purpose of it. The purpose was to make the scheme attractive enough, so that we are able to take industries to areas where presently there are no industries. That is why all these incentives were announced.

The hon. Member also wants to know about six Letters of Intent, and the time

taken to dispose of these six applications. The details are available with me. In one case, the time taken was 90 days; in another, 74 day; in the third, 74 days; in the fourth, 74 days; in the fifth, 77 days and in another case, 119 days. In the particular case which has been mentioned by the hon. Member, *viz.* that of Keshoram Industry, the hon. Member is right : the time taken is much longer than the time taken normally. It took about 750 days to dispose of the application. But the application was not pending with the Department of Industrial Development; this application was for setting up of automobile tyres and tubes units and the Administrative Ministry concerned wanted time because in their view, at the time when the application was taken for consideration, they were of the view that the necessary required capacity already existed and they were of the view that possibly no additional capacity need to be sanctioned. But already this letter of intent had also been issued.

The application was considered in the Licensing Committee three times and ultimately they changed their view. As I said earlier, the time taken was not by the Department of Industrial Development, the Administrative Ministry concerned took this time in order to give a final view whether additional capacity should be sanctioned or not.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :
What about vanaspati mill ?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN :
This is not 'no industry district' alone. Again this is the concern of the Administrative Ministry, that is, the Ministry of Food; in their view, the required capacity already existed in the country and they were not in favour of sanctioning any additional capacity. Whenever they change their view, the government will take a decision. This is a policy decision which does not concern us alone in the Ministry of Industrial Development about infrastructural development, we realise that one of the impediments towards rapid industrialisation in the backward area is the absence of infrastructural facilities. It was decided with effect from 1.4.83 to assist the State Government to take up infrastructural development in one or two identified growth centres in each no industry district. You will appreciate the industrial

development is basically the responsibility of the State Governments; the State Governments have to make provisions; they will have to undertake whatever schemes they want to take up for industrial development. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments. We try to help them and with the intention and purpose to help them we come out with these schemes. Under these schemes, the assistance from the Central Government will be limited to one-third of the total cost of the infrastructural development subject to maximum of Rs. 2 crores per district; it is not for the entire State; it is for the entire District. The hon. member demanded that money should be increased to Rs. 10 crores. Already there are three backward districts in Orissa State. *(Interruptions)* I am not saying that they would not identify other then backward areas, but based on the criterion adopted at that time, the Orissa Government could identify only three districts as no industry districts. *(Interruptions)* I appreciate the concern of the hon. member about the industrial development of the State. I wish we had more resources; I wish we had more fund so that we can give to the State. But there are limits, there are constraints on resources; we are trying our best to help the State Government to take up the scheme of industrial development.

The infrastructural facilities which would qualify for central assistance are approach roads, water works, effluents discharge systems, common utilities and facilities, power service stations, drainage, culverts, industrial houses, etc. The State Governments have been advised to identify one or two growth centres in no industry districts and constitute State level committees to undertake development. The shares are, one-third share has to be given by the Central Government, and one-third by the States and the hon. Member is aware of it.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : I want to make it reverse.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: You want us to give two-thirds. All right; one-third is given by us and one-third is given by the term lending institutions, they are giving one-third concessional interest rates. In any case, the State Government has to pay only one-third of

the total cost of the scheme. I am sure the hon. Member knows this.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : It must be excluding those and subsidies.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : I am putting it the other way, that the State Government will have to bear the burden of only one-third of the total cost of the scheme. I am sure, that the hon. Member will succeed in persuading the State Government—the Government of Orissa—to identify the growth centres at the earliest because after identifying the growth centres the scheme will come to the Central Government and the financial institutions will agree to give the loans.

MR. CHAIRMAN (SHRI ZAINUL BASHER) : She has failed there. That is why she is asking here.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : I am sure, she cannot fail there.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : I do not want any ceiling. Do not limit the amount.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : About Rs. 2 crores are given by the Central Government, Rs. 2 crores by the State Government, and Rs. 2 crores is given as loan from the IDBI at a concessional rate.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : I am saying this because of the limited resources of the State.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has also limited resources.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : The question of limited resources applies to us equally.

About the MRTP houses, the no-industry districts which have been included in Category 'A' backward areas in setting up industries in those districts, are given overriding priority in the grant of industrial licences. The question is, MRTP houses or any other houses, whether we succeed in persuading them to go to the backward areas, that is the question. Even while the ceiling was Rs. 20 crores we could not have compelled them. We could have only persuaded them. Now that the ceiling has been raised to Rs. 100 crores our efforts to persuade them to go to the backward

areas are increasing. They are not going to be selective. In order to attract them to the backward areas it has been decided that entrepreneurs setting up industries in these districts are to be given overriding priority in the grant of industrial licence, higher rate of central investment subsidy, that is 25 per cent subject to a maximum of Rs. 25 crores, concessional finance facilities from all-India term lending institutions, tax concessions, hire purchase of machinery for small scale industries, consultancy for backward services, interest subsidy, some marginal assistance and comprehensive range of extension services, and support through the district industry centres.

On the other hand, MRTP and FERA companies have been permitted to set up non-Appendix I industries not reserved for small scale sector with an export obligation of only 3 per cent. That I feel is an important concession, and an important incentive which has been given to MRTP and FERA houses for setting up industries in the backwards areas in no industry districts. I think I have tried to meet the points which were made by the hon. Members.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Only thing is while this policy has been announced, I do not know, how you will attract the MRTP houses to go into the no industries areas.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : The hon. Member is absolutely right. Industrial development is a process, the progress of which you cannot assess during a very short period. That is why review has been taken up of the three years after the scheme was announced. Whatever suggestions have been given, we welcome. On the basis of the suggestions a review is being undertaken. We are committed to this principle of development of the backward areas. We are trying our best to persuade the industrialists to go to the backward areas. We will keep up these efforts and I would like to assure the hon. Member that Orissa will be given full attention it deserves.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the decision of the Central Governments to help 'no-industry districts' in the backward areas to remove regional balances is a welcome step but I am afraid the way you are going to

implement the scheme, the half-hearted way in which you are pursuing the matter, the aims of the scheme, which are no doubt very good, may not be achieved and the backward areas may not be benefited. In our Rajasthan, only Barmer district has been declared as a 'no industry district.' Some 6 or 7 months back this was so declared but later on it was stated that it was declared as 'no industry district' on 1 April, 1985. This period of 7 to 8 months was taken to issue the notification. So much time is taken in issuing a notification. At first, time was taken declaring it as 'no industry district' and then in issuing the notification. Now the notification has been issued, but, perhaps, the industrialists have not come to know of it. After the notification, the industrialists will put forth their difficulties because in such a backward area where no infrastructure is available, no industrialist will come forward. ON 1 April, 1985, Jaisalmer district had also been declared as 'no industry district' but so far even electricity is not available there. How can an industry be set up without electricity? When the Central Government are helping so much and giving preference to the backward districts, could you not put pressure on the State Government to make available the infrastructure like electricity there on priority basis? There is no electricity in Jaisalmer so far and it is the only district headquarters which has not been electricity. Without electricity, which industrialist will be ready to set up an industry there, in spite of there being vast scope for it? Therefore, the Central Government should issue a direction that the State Governments should provide electricity or other infrastructural facilities on a priority basis. You are helping so much. You are providing Rs. 2 crores for a district. This amount is not a meagre amount for a district and if progress is made accordingly, that will not be a small achievement. But how can an industry be set up without the infrastructure? Therefore, I would like to know whether the Central Government will issue directions to the State Government to make available electricity and other such infrastructural facilities on a priority basis?

Secondly, you have extended this scheme for one year and also appointed a committee which will advise you regarding this scheme. This scheme was started on 1 April, 1983 and now you have constituted a committee

for a period of one year to find out whether it will be successful or not. That means you are not sure of the success of this scheme. You have doubts in this regard. This approach is not good. The first thing is that you should be sure about the scheme and I do feel that it will succeed. Why should you then have any doubt in your mind? I want that this scheme should be extended by 3 years instead of one year so that the State Governments may try to make available the infrastructure and the industrialists may also come forward at the properties. But as it is the period of one year will be over soon and neither the infrastructure will be made available nor will the industrialists come forward to set up industries. If after one year you think of extending it further, then its purpose will be defeated. Therefore, kindly clarify that the scheme which you are formulating will continue during the Seventh Five Year Plan period. I want a guarantee, an assurance from you that scheme will not be dropped midway after one year.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : Sir, this scheme under which the Central Government provide subsidy for different categories of industries has been operating since April 1983. May I know how many industries have been set up in the different States state-wise under this Scheme since the introduction of this scheme?

Secondly, it is being said that a major amount has gone to one or to States. This includes the name of the State from which I come, whose name is mostly referred to for purposes of criticism. Therefore, may I know the number of 'no-industry districts' in each state and also the details of amounts of subsidy given every year to these 'no-industry districts' in each State? There are States where the number of 'no-industry districts' is more but the amount of subsidy that they have got is less than their due. Do you want or do you not to find some way to ensure the due share for such States by discussing the matter with the State concerned?

When you started this scheme, you called for information from the States and they, in turn, asked the D. I. C. to intimate whether or not there was any medium scale industry there. They thought that if they wrote that such and such industry was closed or its

chances for survival were remote and that if such information reached the Central Government, the Chief Minister might get annoyed. So, they wrote that such and such medium scale industry existed there. I am also a victim of this. In my district Almora, there is one Kumar Bronze Factory which they showed as a medium scale industry. Almora should have been given category A but it was not given. The benefit that Almora should have got is not accruing to it. In such a situation, Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would request the hon. Minister to tell us the names of those unfortunate districts about which wrong information was supplied and where there are no large or medium scale industries at present and even if there are some such industries, there do not appear to be any chances of their survival? I would like to urge Government to call for this information from the States once again so that the areas which had been left earlier may also get the benefit of 'no-industry districts.'

One more thing I would like to know from the hon. Minister and that is about infrastructural development subsidy. The primary responsibility of infrastructural development subsidy is that of the State Governments and you only provide assistance to them. May I know which States have taken infrastructural development subsidy and how much amount has each of them taken? Also, are there any States which have not been able to create such facilities and have consequently not been able to get the assistance? Is U. P. one of States?

[English]

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada) : Sir, the hon. Minister has said that the Sivaraman Committee, the National Committee on Development of Backward Areas has already submitted the report in October, 1980 and that the inter-ministerial group is considering the matter regarding fixation of categories of industrial backwardness.

Through you I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that this is the need of the hour and it is very very necessary to fix the categories of industrial backwardness. First of all, the categorisation was made and subsequently the backward industrial districts were decided after consultation with the State

Governments. I would like to say that there are some lapses, just like preparing the lists of problem villages which are experiencing the problem of drinking water. Certainly, there are some lapses at some level or the other. There is no point in going back to find fault with those suggestions. The whole truth is some areas are categorised as backward because they do not have the necessary infrastructural facilities and the entrepreneurs are also not interested to go to those places. In fact, in our State also, the Krishna, Guntur, Godavari, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam and Nellore districts were left out and only Srikakulam district is selected. The Government was good enough to treat that district as backward district because some Naxalbari movement has started in that district. Nandigram, Jaggannapeta, Tiruvur and Vissannapeta and several other taluks of my Constituency are industrially backward. The Government of India have set up some industries here and there as at Hyderabad and Vizag but for that there is no industrialization in other places. The Government of India has set up the thermal power station in Vijayawada. But the other parts of Krishna district do not have industries.

The Central Government is well aware that several State Governments have suggested now that the criterion of the backward industrial block should be changed. The Governments of Maharashtra, Tamilnadu, Gujarat and several other States including Orissa have suggested that the criterion should be changed. I request the Government to immediately take up the matter and take a decision in this regard because no-industry block will be more rational and it will certainly help industrialisation of the backward areas; thereby, it will be able to provide employment to a good number of people. Actually in our State itself there are more than 15 lakh unemployed people and in the whole country it is more than one crore of people. So, the Government should take this decision as early as possible. Of course, the Minister has told us that, meanwhile, this one-year extension is allowed so that the present set-up is not disturbed. It is a good thing. But that should not make you take the decision at a later date. I request once again through you, Sir, the hon. Minister to take it up in all seriousness and see that the Ministerial Group gives its

recommendations and the Government decides no-industry block as the category for giving licences or other capital subsidy and several other incentives that are given for the backward areas.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, in view of the fact that there is poverty in the midst of plenty in Orissa and this scheme, as stated by the hon. Minister, that no-industry district is to be included in Category-A, I want to point out to the hon. Minister—and, I think, you will agree with me, Sir, in this—that it is not enough that a scheme is prepared but it must be seen how best it can be implemented in those districts so as to industrialise them—which is the purpose of the scheme. The scheme should not remain only in pen and paper. As stated by the hon. Minister, some subsidy and concession are to be given to start industry. Since the Orissa Government has not got sufficient funds to finance these industries, the scheme cannot be implemented there. And the ceiling is Rs. 2 crores per district. Under these circumstances, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Central Government will come in a big way to fund the schemes to industrialise those districts by implementing the scheme. It will not suffice if the concession is given to the persons who start the industry. Concession should also be given to the Government which is sincere to industrialize Orissa. One-third amount ought to be met by the Central Government by a special scheme to assist the Orissa Government either by advancing loans or by some other means—so that the real intention of industrialising all those districts will materialise. Besides that, raising the ceiling from Rs. 2 crores for each district to Rs. 10 crores may please be considered. That apart, there are many other districts in Orissa which are backward. Take, for example, the Ganjam district in Orissa. There may be infrastructure. But the concessions and subsidies to be given to the backward districts are not made available to that district and as such industries are not coming up. For want of concession, subsidies less interest certainly a man will not be interested to start an industry in a district though the infrastructure and the raw materials are available. Under these circumstances I would request the Minister

to revise the list if possible. It is our duty to see that the State Government should do it. Not that we should leave everything to the State Government, when the Indian government wants that the programmes should be implemented for the benefit of the people. I would once again request the hon. Minister to give more concessions to the Orissa Government which is sincere in developing and industrialising the State and Ganjam district ought to be declared as a backward district. In the there no-industry districts proposals have been given for certain schemes to be implemented, they ought to be sanctioned very soon.

[Translation]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN :

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to Sarvashri Virdhi Chander Jain, Harish Rawat, Raoji and Rathji for expressing their concern about the backward areas. Your anxiety for those areas gives us strength in furthering our work and implementing those of our schemes which we want to implement for the development of those areas.

As I had said in my original answer, the responsibility for industrialisation is that of the State Governments. I would like the State Government to realise the feelings of the hon. Members which they have expressed here and implement these schemes as effectively as possible.

Shri Jain has said that these schemes are being implemented half-heartedly. I would like to assure him that we want to implement them whole-heartedly.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Rather with move vigour.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN :

Whatever word you may like to use; but we have no doubt in our mind about this. There is no question of doing it half-heartedly. You have also asked whether there is any doubt about the scheme because it is being reviewed. We have no doubt about it. The review is being made not because we have any doubt about its usefulness or its successful implementation but taking advantage of the experience gained, we want to make it better and remove the shortcomings, if any, so that the backward areas may be developed. This is the purpose of the review. So far as Barmer district is concerned, the State Government have told us that due to over-

sight or some other reason, this district could not be included in their earlier recommendation. It is not that a district is declared as a no-industry district merely because the State Governments have said that such and such district should be declared as no-industry district. There is some criterion. The condition is that there should be no large or medium scale industrial unit in that district on a particular date and on that particular date the districts having no large or medium scale unit, were recommended for being included in the list of 'No-Industry' Districts. The State Government stated that for some reasons this name was left out. We had made no such announcement six months ago and if at all any announcement had been made, it would have been made by the State Government. But on our part we took action on receiving information from the State Government and I feel that we did not take much time in this matter and we included that district in the list of 'No-Industry' Districts'.

A question has again been raised about power. I also repeat that development of power is the responsibility of the State Governments, but in the power sectors also, the Central Government are providing assistance to the State Governments in the setting up of thermal power stations or hydro-electric stations. It is said repeatedly that the States have got limited resources. But the resources of the Central Government are also not unlimited. Our resources are also limited and with our limited resources we went to do more work in every field and also want to provide maximum help for the work being done by the State Governments.

Shri Harish Rawat has made a point about identifying a district and has said that some district industries centres have submitted wrong figures thinking that the people might say that nothing was being done in their district. I would like to say that if the hon. Member gives specific information, we shall again write to the State Government and ask them to confirm it, to get it verified and then make their recommendation on the basis of rectified figures. So far as Almora District is concerned, it is a Special Region District. If being a hill district, it comes in the list of Special Region Districts and under the new policy for electronics industry announced on 1 April, 1985 prescribing a ceiling of 25 per cent, it

is entitled to receive a subsidy of Rs. 50 lakhs instead of Rs. 25 lakhs. I trust that the people of this district will get special benefit following the announcement of the new policy.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Our claim for 'No-Industry District' is justified but wrong figures have been given.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : I am congratulating you. I am not contradicting you.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will small-scale industries not be set up there ?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Besides, a letter of intent was given for Almora in 1982. In 1984 also a letter of intent was given. An industrial licence has already been sanctioned for Almora in 1984.

The second question raised by Shri Harish Rawat was about the number of 'No-Industry' Districts covered under the Central Investment Subsidy Scheme.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Also the number of industries which have been set up.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : It will be difficult for me to give the number of industries set up and the list showing the number of letters of intent and industrial licences issued for these districts will be very long. I have got it with me and if you want I can read out.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You, please send the information to him.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : You may give statewise figures, broadly.

19.00 hrs.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Sir, there are 2 districts in Assam, 6 in Bihar, 1 in Gujarat and 5 in Himachal Pradesh.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : What is the amount of subsidy given to each state ?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Sir, I have got information with me pertaining to the year 1984. Tamil Nadu received Rs. 7.29 crores, Madhya Pradesh received Rs. 6.28 crores, Karnataka received Rs. 5.65 crores and Rajasthan received Rs. 5.10 crores. *(Interruptions)*

There is no 'no-industry' district in Tamil Nadu. There are three categories of 'no-industry' districts under the Central Investment Subsidy Scheme namely 'A', 'B' and 'C'. The districts under all the three categories are backward districts. Under this scheme, they are entitled to get assistance. There is no 'no-industry' district in Tamil Nadu. I have got no information with me about 'B' category districts there. Perhaps 'C' category districts are there.

Sir, I was mentioning the amount of subsidy given. Andhra Pradesh received Rs. 4.63 crores, Gujarat received Rs. 4.37 crores, Himachal Pradesh received Rs. 3.2 crores, Maharashtra received Rs. 2.61 crores, Goa, Daman and Diu received Rs. 2.42 crores, Haryana received Rs. 2.10 crores, Punjab received Rs. 1.63 crores, Orissa received Rs. 1.56 crores, Uttar Pradesh received Rs. 1.26 crores, West Bengal received Rs. 47 lakhs, Mizoram received Rs. 38 lakhs, and Assam received Rs. 30 lakhs.

These figures relate to the year 1983-84.

[English]

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY (Nalgonda) : You have not said about Andhra.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : I have said it. In 1983-84, Andhra got Rs. 4.63 crores and in 1984-85 it got Rs. 7.14 crores.

[Translation]

I have given figures about almost all the States. I have also got year-wise information with me. Sir, if you ask, I shall send it to the hon. Member or lay it on the Table of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Give it later on.

AN HON. MEMBER : We have asked about the infrastructure scheme many times.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : You have asked about the infrastructure scheme. Funds have been provided to various States under that scheme.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : I wanted to know the criteria adopted for giving this

amount to the States. For instance, there are 11 districts in U. P. So U. P. should get an amount at least equal to what has been given to Tamil Nadu.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please see the Minister. He will tell you.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Do you propose to hold talks with those States which have not been given funds as per their claims ?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : I would like to reiterate that the Central Government's responsibility is to prepare a scheme and to see whether it is being implemented or not. For monitoring the implementation, the only option with us is to keep liaison with the State Governments and that we do. We send circulars to them from time to time. We tell them these are the schemes and these are the facilities available thereunder; please implement them for the development of backward areas.

Hon. Members, Shrimati Patnaik, Shri Rath and Shri Rawat had said that the amount should be increased to Rs. 10 crores. Shri Rawat wanted to know the names of the States which did not get money under the infrastructure scheme. No State has been given any money under this scheme because no State has prepared and forwarded any scheme so far. They have not so far identified the areas where they want to develop the infrastructure. So far as raising the amount to Rs. 10 crores is concerned, that is, the suggestion of the hon. Member and we have noted it. But two years period has elapsed and the scheme costing Rs. 2 crores has not so far been prepared. The amount of Rs. 10 crores is a very big amount. Let them first utilise this amount. Once the process of development work starts, I think there will be no need to depend on the amount of assistance being given by the Central Government. Instead, the State Governments will be able to mobilise their own resources and build up the infrastructure.

There can be different approaches towards this scheme. If we ask a State Government repeatedly to implement the scheme prepared by the Central Government, the former may take it as interference in their affairs. We are not at all interested in creating such a situation.

Sir, Shri Rao...

[English]

Shri Rao has raised the point about the review of the scheme. I have already stated while replying to Shrimati Jayanti Patnaik's questions that a comprehensive review of the existing Central incentive scheme is being undertaken and an inter-Ministerial Committee is being constituted. I have already clarified all these points and the suggestions which have been made by the hon. Members have, no doubt, been very good suggestions and they will get due considerations. We will try to incorporate whatever is possible in the revised scheme.

[Translation]

I have replied to the point raised by Shri Rath. He demanded that Ganjam District be declared as a backward district. I think it will not be possible for me to declare it as a backward district forthwith because you yourselves will not like a Minister to do so.

Shri Rawat had asked in the beginning whether there were mistakes in the figures or recommendations could not come from any State Governments. (Interruptions)

Having regard to your feelings, I would definitely supply you the information in this regard. At the same time I would also like to tell you that we are noting the suggestion made by you. This scheme is also being reviewed.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Please indicate this to the Orissa Government to declare Ganjam district as a backward and 'no-industry district'.

[Translation]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Sir, I would like to reiterate this resolve of the Government of India once again that we want rapid development of the backward areas and we consider industrialisation as the most important factor in this regard and we shall continue our efforts in this direction.

19.09 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Eleven of the Clock on Monday,
May 6, 1985/Vaisakha 16,
1907 (Saka)*